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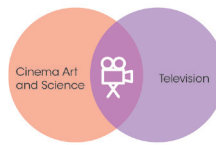


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» G-JUN YAM/CHRONICLE

EMMY-NOMINATED FACULTY

Television professor resigns, cites racial discrimination

Michael Fry
Television



» ARIANA PORTALATIN
CAMPUS EDITOR

MICHAEL FRY, AN associate professor in the Television Department who is known collegewide as one of the faces of Columbia in its advertising campaign on campus buildings, resigned Jan. 20, citing a decade of racial discrimination.

During a Jan. 25 interview with the Chronicle, Fry, who announced his resignation on Jan. 20 in a Facebook post, said he experienced discrimination and culturally insensitive remarks from Television Department leadership and faculty since his start as a full-time faculty member in 2007.

“Whether or not [the faculty member] understands what [they are] saying to me doesn’t matter,” Fry said regarding the remarks. “The intent doesn’t matter; it’s the outcome.”

Interim Television Department Chair Sharon Ross and former chair Michael Niederman declined to comment when contacted by The Chronicle.

Fry said even though the college used photos of him on the side of 600 S. Michigan Ave. Building, the Columbia website, and additional advertisements, it has not treated him with respect.

“I can almost guarantee they’ll put [another] black face up where [mine] was because what that says about Columbia is that any black face will do,” Fry said. “They will use me as advertising, but they will not treat me with dignity. They will use me to recruit black students, but they will

Whether or not [the faculty member] understands what [they are] saying to me doesn’t matter. The intent doesn’t matter; it’s the outcome.”

not treat me with respect. They will use me as an example of why students of color should come to study with me and students not of color should come and study with me, but they will not treat me as an equal. That’s why I had to leave.”

Fry said he no longer had access to documents that could potentially verify his specific allegations, so The Chronicle

has chosen to not identify individuals Fry said had made insensitive remarks.

Fry began teaching at Columbia as an adjunct professor in 1997 and received tenure in 2013. Over the course of his 10 years in the Television Department, he said he requested

cultural sensitivity training for the department three separate times before finally deciding to leave the college when his requests were not honored.

“Columbia is a great place; I love Columbia,” Fry said. “This is a situation that is intrinsic with my experience to the Television Department. I am in no way upset with or have any complaints

against the entity of Columbia.”

Fry said he has not decided whether he will take legal action against the school but has filed a complaint with the Human Resources Office.

Fry said he did not file complaints earlier because he was afraid of losing his job.

Resignation over racial tensions means the college should listen up

» MEGAN BENNETT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

No institution of higher education is perfect when it deals with allegations of insensitivity toward minority races and cultures. However, with all of the abundant resources Columbia is putting toward diversity, equity and inclusion, one would think this college would be more prepared to do so.

As reported on the Front Page, tenured faculty member in the Television Department—and one of the most marketed professors on campus—Michael Fry abruptly left his position a week before the Spring 2017 Semester, which he said was because of racial discrimination that came from the top leaders in the department and School of Media Arts.

Fry left after 10 years as a full-time employee who was adjunct professor before that. The allegations have been investigated by the Office of Human Resources and no evidence of unfair treatment was found, according to a Feb. 10 statement from college spokeswoman Anjali Julka.

This departure comes at an incredibly inopportune time for the college. Columbia is currently trying to solidify its reputation as a national leader in diversity, equity and inclusion with various seminars, forums, committees and job appointments. Academic leaders are also proposing that DEI be a curricular requirement, as reported on Page 4.

If Columbia wants to effectively continue with this work, it needs to discuss plans of action following allegations like these with top leaders: the DEI committee and President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim, who organized the committee. Even if the allegations are unfounded, which is the college's stance on the matter, they still need to discuss what Fry said he was asking for all along: training that helps the predominantly white faculty and staff understand the experiences of others.

Despite HR's decision to not move forward with Fry's allegations, the college should not brush them off as if it never happened. If a tenured faculty member—especially one whose history with the college is drastically more storied than that of most current administrators—says there is a discrimination problem, it is time to listen.

The college could bring an independent party to speak with non-white tenured faculty members about how or if they feel



respected within their department, especially because Fry is not the only full-time faculty member to make similar allegations. According to the college's statement, Fry is in addition to four full-time faculty members who have filed racial discrimination complaints to governmental agencies within the last decade. This does not account for the possibility of faculty and staff who felt similarly but never reported, which, similar to why Fry said he waited to file a grievance, could be due to fear of retaliation.

To make matters worse, Fry's face is still plastered on the outside wall of the 600 S. Michigan Ave. Building as part of a marketing campaign that aims to prove Columbia is a diverse and accepting place. He has been removed as the face on an online banner people see when they first visit the college website following his resignation. To keep Fry attached to the college is a dishonest attempt to promote the college's diverse faculty and is beyond inappropriate—it is insulting to him, prospective students and the entire college community.

If the college has any respect for what Fry accomplished during his time as a tenured professor, which it should considering its heavy use of his image for marketing, then it needs to honor that by listening to and accepting what he and potentially other faculty members say will help improve this institution's environment for employees and students. No matter if they think the complaints have merit or not, the college needs to use this unfortunate loss as a wake-up call; get employees the training they need to foster a safe and positive workplace for all.

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Majors, programs merged in School of Media Arts proposal

» ARIANA PORTALATIN
CAMPUS EDITOR

PROPOSALS TO MERGE several departments and programs were recently announced for the School of Media Arts in response to student input regarding obstacles to interdisciplinary study, according to a Feb. 7 email from Dean Eric Freedman.

According to the emailed announcement to students, the departmental mergers are currently would be scheduled to begin in the Fall 2017 Semester and include consolidation of the Communication & Media Innovation and Radio departments; Television and Cinema Art and Science departments; and the Animation Program to become housed in the Interactive Arts & Media Department.

Freedman said in the email that he had been listening to students' thoughts about diversity among departments, which led him to initiate conversations in July 2016 with department chairs. Additionally, the merger would not affect current students' paths to graduation, the email said.

Freedman was not available for comment as of press time.

"From August to November, those talks expanded into faculty-led working groups to assess how we can best structure our school in order to better serve our students, fuel experimentation, encourage collaboration, engage with emerging media, and develop interdisciplinary practices that match the evolving nature of our industries—and to reflect the real

connection points between media forms," the email said.

Ron Fleischer, an associate professor in the Cinema Art and Science Department and co-director of the animation program, said a merger between the Animation Program and the IAM Department would be beneficial for prospective students.

"Right now, if [students] want to find animation, they have to find us within Cinema Art and Science, and they may be limited to what they see there," Fleischer said. "Imagine just one department that has everything under one roof. A prospective student would see everything we have to offer."

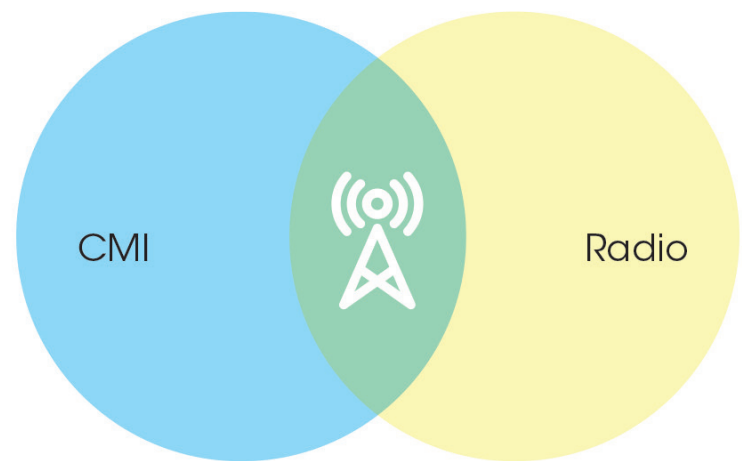
CMI Department Chair Suzanne McBride said a merger with radio will allow students to learn from a variety of experiences.

"I don't think there are many jobs today where you can go and do one thing," McBride said. "Hopefully, students might be more likely—for instance, as a college-wide elective—[to] say 'I might take a radio class because now I know a little bit more about it because the students are physically near me.'"

Jailynn Gultney, a sophomore radio major, said the merger could open up more possibilities for students.

"Personally, I'm a radio major, but I want to do other things," Gultney said. "It all fits together, so I think it's a good idea."

Bruce Sheridan, chair of the Cinema Art and Science Department, said the merge of television and film disciplines makes



» GABRIEL DE LA MORA/CHRONICLE

sense because the two often cross over into each other.

"What we want to do is make it possible for students to be exposed to both of those practices to the degree they are interested in," Sheridan said. "They can do that through cross-listed courses, but that is hard for some students in [the departments'] current structure."

Siqi Wu, junior cinema art and science major, said she was surprised to hear about the merges and is unsure if they were necessary.

"Film is a very different system, a very different media, and it works in a different way [from television]," Wu said. "I know they tie off mass media and it's all about the screen, but the way that people make film and television shows [is] quite different."

Wu added that although she questions the merges, she thinks more collaboration is needed between departments.

"There's definitely a clear and strong division," Wu said. "Collaboration is something Columbia is really supposed to focus on. There are so many things we need from each other's majors."

Sharon Ross, interim chair of the Television Department, said she was aware of student about interdepartmental study, but only to a certain degree. While she does not hear about it that much in her

department, she did hear about student frustrations while on the search committee for the new dean.

"There were two student representatives from SMA, and they talked a lot about [how] students were frustrated," Ross said. "[They noted that] if they were in TV, it would be hard to take a cinema class because they didn't have the right prerequisites even if they might have the skill set, or even being able to borrow equipment back and forth across departments."

According to a Feb. 14 announcement from Freedman, two open forums have been scheduled for Feb. 21 and March 15 to give students the opportunity to be involved in discussions and ask questions about the proposed mergers.

It is great that students would have the opportunity for their voices to be heard, Wu said.

"I'm very glad the dean listens to us," Wu said. "Our students need that because there are many problems that Columbia has right now."

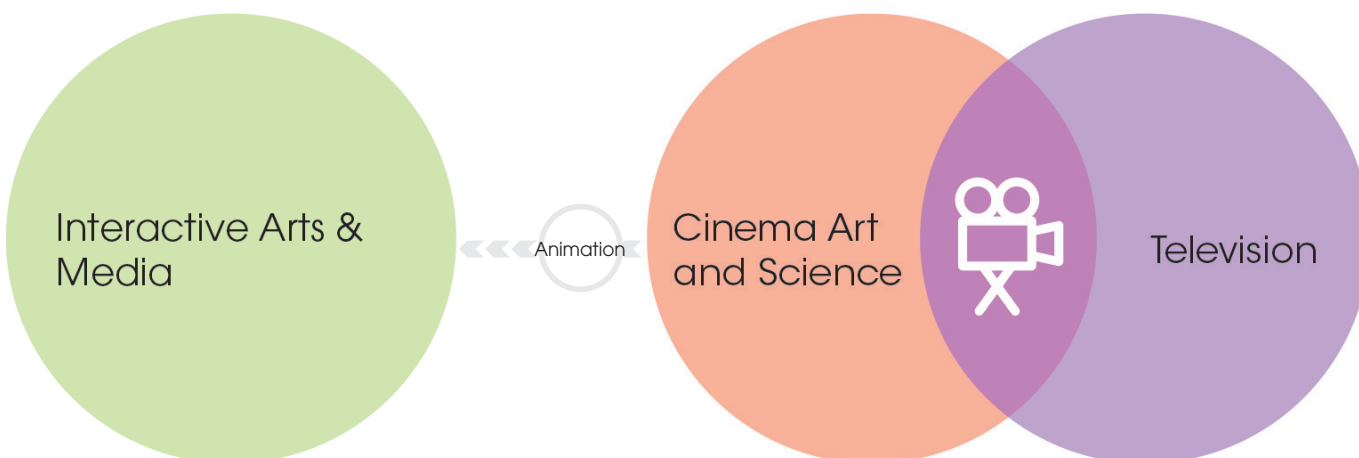
Faculty inclusion in Freedman's decision-making process was also beneficial, Fleischer added.

The chairs were not involved in the Cinema Art and Science and Television merger discussions to ensure faculty's voices were being heard, Ross said.

"We wanted it to be faculty and staff that wouldn't feel influenced by what Bruce and I might think," she said.

She added that open communication from the dean is important because of Columbia's history with department and program combinations.

"We all know that there have been very rocky mergers and transitions in the past where students did get shut out or felt shut out, and I think our dean is doing a really good job of doing everything he can to make sure that does not happen," Ross said.



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Committees propose new curriculum requirements, additions

» CONNOR CARYNSKI
CAMPUS REPORTER

NEW REQUIRED COURSES—including a “Creative World” course for transfer students, and a business course required for all upperclassmen—as well as the opportunity to declare a “pathway”—were among the curriculum proposals announced in a Feb. 8 email from the Office of the Provost.

Steven Corey, interim dean School of Liberal Arts & Sciences and chair of Columbia’s Core Curriculum Committee, said the newly proposed courses will provide an educational framework, similar to that of the Big Chicago classes, and are the next logical step in expanding the student experience.

“It’s a great way to have an experience that’s more than just

one semester,” Corey said. “It’s to work with the process of a student selecting a major and also beginning their general education core

of the Writing Intensive, Global Awareness and U.S. Pluralism required course categories. Corey said even though the categories are

said the learning goals will stay the same but will be reached in different ways.

“It’s not that we decided these other things were more important but just that maybe there were better ways to achieve some of these same goals,” Powell said.

Additional changes include a requirement of fifteen 2000 level

Six credits with a diversity, equity and inclusion focus will also be required in the proposal.

“We want to encourage students very much to go beyond,” Corey said. “Our current LAS Core has a great deal of breadth; in fact the curriculum of the college has a great deal of breadth, but we want depth. We want students to go deeper into subject matters.”

Class designations, called pathways, would also be created under the proposal. These pathways, between 12-18 credits, would cover 18 of the 33 “Essential Liberal Art and Science” credits. The pathways will not be required and are designed to create an overarching educational theme throughout LAS courses, Corey said.

If students complete the pathway’s credit requirement, the name of the framework will appear on their transcripts and

» GABRIEL DE LA MORA/CHRONICLE

curriculum in the essential Liberal Arts & Sciences.”

The proposal, which was sent to faculty and staff and will be up for approval to Faculty Senate by April 1, also outlines revisions of required LAS courses including the removal

being eliminated, the courses that fall under the titles will continue to be available in the course catalog.

Pegeen Reichert Powell, associate professor in English Department and member of the Curriculum Core Committee,

or higher credits before graduation, as opposed to the current six.

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DEI series explores roots of ‘white people’

» **CONNOR CARYNSKI**
CAMPUS REPORTER

THE ORIGIN OF the term “white people” and its impact on American history was the subject of a Feb. 13 campus seminar led by a notable expert on critical race theory.

The seminar, titled “Going Back to Go Forward,” held at Stage Two in

the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, was the second installment of Columbia’s Diversity, Equity & Inclusion series. Jacqueline Battalora, who also led the first DEI program last semester, is a sociology and criminal justice professor at Saint Xavier University and the author of a book about race inequality, “Birth of a White Nation.”

The event was co-sponsored by the Columbia College Assembly and the Office of the Provost. The third program in the series is planned for March 13 and two others have been scheduled later in the Spring semester.

“You have to name a problem before you can start to fix it,” President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim told *The Chronicle*. “That’s really what these kinds of lectures are about, to make sure people can understand how embedded in the structures in which we operate racism is in this country.”

The lecture was attended primarily by faculty and staff members—including Kim and Senior Vice President and Provost Stan Wearden, who introduced Battalora—with only a few students in the audience. Diana Vallera, member of the Columbia College Assembly and adjunct professor in the Photography Department, said few students

attended because the seminar was scheduled during class times, and promotion by professors could have been stronger.

Battalora’s lecture covered a series of laws enacted in the 1600s that segregated white from non-white people, birthing institutional racism. Battalora said the laws were created following a large retaliation of black and white indentured servants in 1676 who fought landholders imposing harsh punishments, known as Bacon’s Rebellion.

To ensure another rebellion would not occur again, Virginia lawmakers created laws uplifting whites and taking rights away from non-white people, thus dividing the working class majority.

“You don’t even need me to say white superiority is institutionalized: it’s blatantly obvious,” Battalora said. “Once we’ve shared this information; it is not hard to talk about white privilege.”

Vallera said it was important for the college community to have the opportunity to learn the history and laws that created white

privilege, so everyone can apply that knowledge to institutional racism today.

“[Columbia College Assembly] agreed as a group it would be important to bring in speakers who can bring some of that historical framework and then we’re looking forward to keep expanding on that into gender and other areas as well,” Vallera said.

Battalora said Columbia’s community of artists should take this understanding and translate it into their crafts to make it more accessible to the public.

“[This information] can create a bridge to talk because it helps to create a shared foundation of knowledge that we can build on to advance lots of current day political interests,” Battalora said. “What, in my experience, so often happens without a shared history is that people deploy and draw upon stereotypes. In the present, rooting things in historical fact really helps to challenge that.”

ccarynski@chroniclemail.com



» KEVIN TIONGSON /CHRONICLE

At a Feb. 13 seminar Jacqueline Battalora, professor of sociology and criminal justice at Saint Xavier University, discussed the early American laws that spawned racial segregation.

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Student created 'HUMANITY' production to discuss social issues

» **MARISA SOBOTKA**
CAMPUS REPORTER

"HUMANITY," AN ORIGINAL production that portrays social issues through dance, spoken word and American Sign Language, will have its first out-of-state performance at Columbia on Feb. 24.

Tyler Bradley, a first year graduate student in the Business & Entrepreneurship Department, constructed the show during her time studying as an undergraduate students at Central Michigan University.

"People wanted us to keep doing it," Bradley said. "We have been doing it for the past two years, and now I am bringing it here as an independent project."

The performance will be held at Stage Two on the second floor of the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building. According to Bradley, the show

features 23 performers who range in ages from 16–27 and are mostly Central Michigan University students who have been with the production since its inception.

She said the main purpose of the performance is to inspire people to talk about social issues such as human rights, LGBT rights, Deaf awareness, domestic violence and addiction to help develop a better understanding of the people affected by them.

"We can be sitting next to somebody and know nothing about them or their experiences; it's important to realize that so we can help and be there for each other as humans," Bradley said.

Kathryn Hunter, a student at Central Michigan University as well as the assistant director and a performer in "HUMANITY," said the show has several sections on mental health.

"I play a character who [dies by] suicide, and that is something I myself have been a part of and known people with these problems, so jumping into that role was not an issue," Hunter said.

The show incorporates ASL in the performance, Bradley said, who developed a love for signing and reading while taking a course at Columbia. She also became fond of people within the Deaf community, who don't view themselves as "disabled," she noted.

"I thought that was so beautiful and something that people just don't know, they just assume that somebody who is deaf doesn't want to be or that they have a disability," Bradley said.

"HUMANITY" also includes what Bradley refers to as "talk-backs" after the performance, which are discussions between the cast and audience about the issues addressed.

Caroline Ruark, a first year graduate student in the Business and Entrepreneurship Department and "HUMANITY's" marketing



» Courtesy **STEVE JESSMORE**

"HUMANITY," created by business & entrepreneurship graduate student Tyler Bradley, will be performed on Feb. 24 at 618. S Michigan Ave.

director, said the discussions have provided opportunities for conversations with the audience.

"We found that running the show and then leaving didn't really give us the chance to allow people to start these conversations," Ruark said. "It adds a whole new level of importance to the show."

Bradley said she hopes the show will continue to grow and eventually tour around the country to start conversations and make a real change.

Hunter added that Bradley has always wanted to focus on expressing social injustices everyone has experienced and are difficult to talk about through art and movement, to help people realize what they have in common with each other.

"It shows we are all apart of one entity; it is a reminder that of course we are all different, but we are all part of one humanity," Hunter said.

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Political reform group to bring presidency discussion to Columbia

» **MARISA SOBOTKA**
CAMPUS REPORTER

THE ILLINOIS CAMPAIGN for Political Reform will be holding a forum at Columbia with expert panelists for students and the public to discuss the effects of the Trump administration on the state.

"This is one of the main topics on everyone's mind right now," said Sarah Brune, ICPR's executive director. "Everyone is talking about the Trump administration and how it can affect their daily lives, and that is really what we want to shed some light on."

Scheduled experts to speak at the panel, titled "How Will the Trump Administration Affect Illinois?," include Northwestern University politics professor Jaime Dominguez, Communication & Media Innovation Department Chair Suzanne McBride, Executive

Director of the Latino Policy Forum Sylvia Puente, Professor of Political Science at University of Illinois at Chicago Dick Simpson and Interim Director of Paul Simon Public Policy Institute Jack Tichenor. The forum will be held Feb. 22 in Ferguson Hall at the 600 S. Michigan Ave Building.

Brune said ICPR often holds events at Columbia, including the organization's annual summit, and thought it would be a good setting for this particular forum.

"There is something great about being in an academic space when you are discussing these topics," Brune said.

Simpson, a former 44th Ward alderman, said topics such as immigration and financial cutbacks to social service agencies and local governments would most likely be a part of the audience Q&A after the panel.



The Illinois Campaign for Political Reform, which last came to Columbia in the Fall 2016 semester, will discuss the Trump presidency in a forum on Feb. 22.

"This is going to help the audience visualize what is going to be happening and decide what they want to do about it," Simpson said. "If the public becomes aroused enough, they can block some of the worst of Trump's policies, particularly the budget cuts and some of the immigration laws as well."

McBride, who has worked in political reporting throughout her career, said she is interested in discussing what life will look like for everyday people for the next four years with respect to education,

the environment, social services and the military.

"There are a whole lot of things [to discuss], but this is true for any president, whether it is Trump or anyone else," McBride said. "These federal-level changes can have a real impact on people at the state level."

According to Brune, the forum is open to the general public, but ICPR has always had an interest in students attending their events.

"The purpose for making these events free for students is we

want them to be able to have better access to the political process and better understand how things work in the state and local governments so they can get involved," Brune said.

McBride added that this forum provides a way for Chicagoans and students to reflect on what is happening in government and to decide whether they want to try to get involved. She said this can be done by speaking, calling or emailing with elected state officials or attending hearings to make sure their voices are being heard.

"Whether we realize it or not, students have a big voice and can really have an impact," McBride said. "I hope events like this serve to educate all of us and encourage students in particular to speak out and be engaged."

msobotka@chroniclemail.com

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P-Fac seeks injunction to enforce arbitration award

» **ARIANA PORTALATIN**
CAMPUS EDITOR

A FEB. 6 federal court motion filed by Columbia's part-time faculty union asks for a preliminary injunction requiring the college to comply with compensation awarded in a Jan. 11 arbitration ruling.

The arbitration, which decided the union's collective bargaining agreement prevents full-time staff from joining the union, ordered Columbia to no longer assign teaching hours to full-time staff members and to compensate adjunct faculty for the loss of teaching hours and for the costs of arbitration, as reported Feb. 6 by *The Chronicle*.

"We estimate the college will have to pay at least \$500,000 to harmed P-Fac members and are moving to make this a federal judgment," a Jan.

25 P-Fac email said. "In addition, the college will have to pay P-Fac's costs for the arbitration."

As reported Feb. 6 by *The Chronicle*, P-Fac lawyer Mike Persoon, an attorney at Despres, Schwartz & Geoghegan, Ltd., said arbitration is used as a remedy—in accordance with their Collective Bargaining Agreement—for disputes with the college, which agreed to a binding arbitration in exchange for the union avoiding a strike.

"The college has pushed P-Fac to the brink of a strike authorization, which would create significant labor strife and put at risk the education of thousands of students and millions of tuition dollars, all because the college thinks an arbitrator's decision was 'in error'—which is of course no basis to overturn the award," the motion said.

In the motion, filed in the U.S. District court for the Northern District of Illinois, P-Fac said the college was uncooperative and has a tendency to refuse to honor the arbitration process.

"They are not following the award blatantly, openly and notoriously," Persoon said in a Feb. 15 interview with *The Chronicle*. "That's why we had to file an action to confirm the arbitration award. They have filed a petition to vacate the arbitration award, and that's why I filed a motion for preliminary injunction to require them to abide by the arbitration during the judicial treatment of case."

According to the Feb. 6 motion, the union is being pushed toward a strike because the college has not followed the ruling.

"P-Fac can go on strike and there is nothing they can do to



» FILE PHOTO

According to a Feb. 6 motion, Columbia's part-time faculty union, led by President Diana Vallera, is being pushed towards a strike because the college refuses to follow a Jan. 11 arbitration ruling.

stop it," Persoon said. "My guess is that at least half of the courses at Columbia are taught by P-Fac members. Imagine if you wake up tomorrow, and there's a strike and half of the courses aren't running; that'd be a big problem for the college."

The union already approached the college repeatedly regarding the enforcement of the award, according to the motion.

"P-Fac has made repeated overtures to the college to allow for an orderly treatment of the challenge/enforcement action before this court... but the college refused all efforts," the motion said. "Instead of speeding up review of what was supposed to be final and expeditious arbitration, the college seeks an indefinite stay. But that stay would permit an ongoing and

SEE P-FAC, PAGE 11

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Fry, From Front Front ⬇

“Back in 2007, I was broke; I needed that job,” Fry said. “I needed that money. [That] was why I didn’t speak up loudly about that.”

Associate Provost of Academic Personnel Pegeen Quinn and Associate Vice President of Human Resources Norma de Jesus declined interviews through the College News Office, but according to a Feb. 10 statement from college spokeswoman Anjali Julka, the college has received a total of four complaints of racial discrimination from full-time faculty members since 2007. The statement also said an investigation into Fry’s complaint found no evidence of discrimination or unfair treatment.

“The college made several attempts to persuade Mr. Fry to reconsider his decision and stay at the college. He declined,” the statement added. “The college wishes Mr. Fry success in his future endeavors.”

Fry said the department’s insensitivity also interfered with his tenure application and impeded his

ability to rise in department leadership, though he was awarded tenure according to the usual schedule.

Fry said he does not think that anyone in the department is an “outright racist,” but that some employees “do not have the ability to distinguish between correct conversations with minorities and people of color.”

However, after a negative post-tenure review last year, Fry said he had reached his limit.

“That’s when I said I have to go,” Fry said.

The Chronicle contacted 18 black full-time faculty members to discuss their experiences teaching at the college. Most declined or did not respond, but Curtis Lawrence, an associate professor in the Communication & Media Innovation Department, said he worked with Fry on projects with the Center for Community Arts Partnerships and has a lot of respect for him.

“It’s a chilling message of concern to see faculty members talk about leaving the institution because of concerns about racism and racial

insensitivity,” Lawrence said. “Since the students are at a point where they’re trying to find their place, and we’re having this issue at the faculty level, it’s a big concern.”

Associate Professor in the Communication & Media Innovation Department Lillian Williams said Fry’s experience is reflective of institutions across the country, citing a Oct. 11, 2016 article by the Washington Post.

The article discusses the more than 6,000 responses University of Pennsylvania Professor and Researcher Marybeth Gasman received after writing a Sept. 20 article for The Hechinger Report. The article discussed the lack of diversity at American universities, and was followed by responses from others describing their own experiences with discrimination in the workplace.

“Fry’s case underscores the need to address the socio-cultural forces at work that contribute to these problems in academia,” Williams said.

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Michael Fry, former associate professor in the Television Department, said he experienced a decade of racial discrimination within the department before his Jan. 20 resignation.

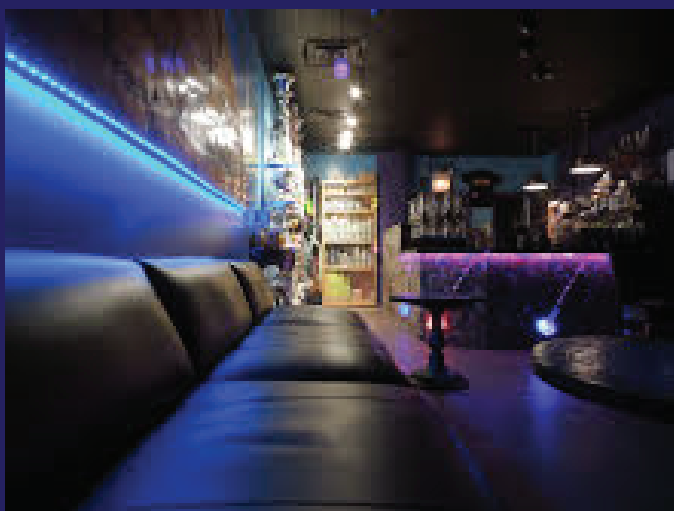
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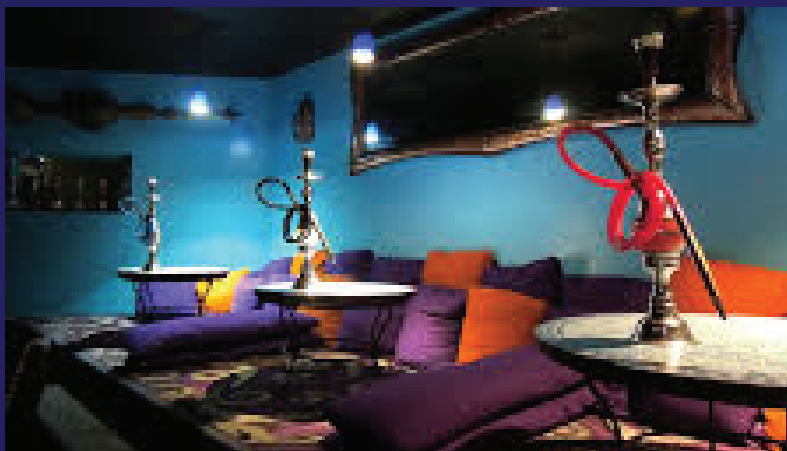
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CURRICULUM, FROM PAGE 4 ⬇

include “The Senses,” “Nature and Society,” and “The Mind and The Body,” but according to Corey, are subject to change.

“Rather than just having a checklist, where students choose [courses that are] disconnected, we wanted there to be some sort of grouping or way in which students could take a theme that really interests them,” Corey said.

The Integrated First Year Experience Committee and the Core Curriculum Committee have worked on the proposals since October 2015, first individually and then cooperatively in May 2016. The committees will be considering suggestions made by the campus community and make changes to the proposal based off the input over the next two months.

Brian Marth, assistant provost for Academic Services and staff representative for the IFYE Committee, said while current students will not be affected by

the changes, he hopes they will still provide input on the proposal for future students.

“There are probably some ways the proposal could improve with some community and critical feedback,” Marth said.

The curriculum proposal will be presented Feb. 27 at Stage Two in the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, where committee members will collect collegewide input.

The College Assembly will be working with the Office of the Provost to publicize the meeting and plans are underway for coordinating a meeting for students though the Student Government Association, according to Marth.

“Our goal in bringing the Core group together with the IFYE group is to really examine, as an institution, how do we make sure there is a Columbia experience?” Marth said. “[We’re] looking at what’s common for all students so we can develop curriculum and an experience for students.”

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P-FAC, FROM PAGE 9 ⬇

continuous breach of the arbitration award, which included an injunction. For these reasons, and to maintain the integrity of the arbitration process, P-Fac now moves for an injunction.”

The motion from P-Fac stated that the college was likely to defend the motion by arguing the award was “in error” and against public policy, following

The motion points to an Aug. 23, 2016 NLRB decision excluding dual-function employees, those who both teach and hold other positions with the college, from the union and P-Fac’s contract.

College spokesperson Anjali Julka said in a Feb. 15 statement on behalf of Terence Smith, the college’s special counsel for labor relations, that the National Labor Relations board decid-

that the arbitrator exceeded his authority in deciding on union representation issues, the arbitrator limited his decision to only cover contractual matters and added that employers and unions both still have the right to seek contract interpretations from outside parties.

“The arbitrator took care to limit his ruling to a contract interpretation and to not infringe on the authority of the Labor Board

to make findings as to what may be an appropriate bargaining unit, subject to contract negotiations over

permissive subjects of bargaining,” the motion stated. “In doing so, he acted within his authority and fulfilled the role made for him by federal labor law. As such, P-Fac is entitled to have that award confirmed and enforced, and not subjected to an indeterminate stay.”

P-Fac can go on strike, and there is nothing they can do to stop it. ”

MIKE PERSON

a decision made by the National Labor Relations Board.

“First, the college will be unable to point to any language in the National Labor Relations Act that the Award is contrary to[...]the college must point to a ‘public policy’ that is ‘well defined and dominant’ to use as the basis to challenge an arbitration,” the motion said.

ed Feb. 14 to uphold a previous decision to include dual-functioning employees in P-Fac’s contract.

“As such, the college will oppose a recent motion filed by P-Fac to enforce the arbitration award,” the statement from the college said.

Although the P-Fac motion contends the college argues

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The Columbia Chronicle

FEATURED PHOTO



» KEVIN TIONGSON/CHRONICLE

Ritch Barnes, an academic adviser for the College Advising Center, led his session titled "Jazz, The Civil Rights Movement and the Revolution!" in The Center for Black Music Research in the 618 S Michigan Ave. Building Feb. 16. The event was part of the Jazz Initiative Series coordinated through the Music Department.



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"Paint & Polish" will be available for purchase online Feb. 23. The book documents the subculture of salons and nail artists in Chicago.



» Photos Courtesy HANNAH HOLDEN

Local photographer showcases salon subculture

» **BLAIR PADDOCK**
ARTS & CULTURE REPORTER

EVERY PART OF the canvas is filled with precise detail of swirls, sparkles and lines. The colors mimic a rainbow, filled with a vast range of shades and brightness. Turns out, though, the canvas used is only 1 inch long—a human fingernail.

Local photographer Helen Maurene Cooper uses her latest book, "Paint & Polish," to document the predominantly African-American and Hispanic nail and salon culture on the West Side. She combines portraiture and detailed photographs to show the intense labor that goes into nail art at salons. The book will be published and available for purchase online Feb. 23.

"Hispanic and African-American women get their nails done all the time, but the stereotype is that it's all at Asian salons," Cooper said. "I had never seen examples of Hispanic and African-American women

who were salon owners, but it's actually a huge deal."

Cooper has been photographing salon subculture for the past eight years. While getting her own nails done, Cooper said she noticed the intricate designs some women were getting and asked where they got them. She said that was when she found out the salons provided a community for women on the West Side.

"The women who now own these salons all kind of come out of a genetic and non-genetic genealogy," Cooper said. "[For example], two different women had different salons, the people who worked for them [may] go on to their own salons, or some of them were daughters of the people that owned salons."

This sense of familial community is also what supports the salons, Cooper said. Economically, it is compelling because they are funded by families and separate themselves from banks, she added.

"[Salon owners] help it come together, then patronize that space, and they become staples of communities," Cooper said.

Ryan Blocker, a collaborator on the project who wrote essays to go with the photos to enhance the women's narratives, said he wanted to recognize the network of women as professionals and business owners.

"I started my [essays] by talking about my mother; whenever she recognized someone with [painted] nails, she would compliment them," Blocker said. "I realized that it was a way of saying, 'I see you as you wish to be seen in a world that often misrecognizes black women.'"

Without the help of banks, these salon owners—specifically women of color—go against the grain of the capitalistic economy of the U.S., said photo historian Roula Seikaly.

"For these women of color, taking the salon and own[ing] it themselves and mak[ing] contributions to this capitalistic

society that doesn't necessarily want them or acknowledge who they are is pretty significant," Seikaly said.

Seikaly said she appreciates how Cooper approaches photography—photographing populations who would not receive much attention otherwise. These are smaller stories that should be told, she added.

Blocker said African-American and Hispanic women have shaped many trends in popular culture and fashion, which has been often invisible. This project re-investigates history and looks into understanding and recognizing their creative labor and contribution, he added.

"When you look at these photos, you realize the skill is on-par with a professional painter [with] their use of colors, choices, details, and terminologies," Blocker said. "I hope people understand these women as artists and business owners."

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Photographer Helen Maurene Cooper (above) said the salon subculture's tight genealogy and community dates back to the 1980s. Her project celebrates women of Chicago's West Side and their nail art through a series of portraits.



» ZOË EITEL
MANAGING EDITORThat's a
*wrap*Shows need to take cues from
'Stranger Things' creators

"Stranger Things" is arguably Netflix's biggest hit since "Orange Is the New Black" started in 2013. It plays on '80s nostalgia without overdoing it, doesn't rely on star power—though Winona Ryder is amazing—and is influenced by many classic movies without being a carbon copy. The child actors who play the main five characters are enough to make it great.

Created by writer and director twins The Duffer Brothers, "Stranger Things" quickly became an international hit, and the second season was teased with a short trailer during the Super Bowl Feb. 5 and excited fans everywhere. The popularity would be easy to capitalize on with many more seasons, but soon after the release, the brothers revealed that the show will only last a maximum of five seasons.

They told Entertainment Weekly Feb. 13 that their goal is to not let "Stranger Things" outstay its welcome.

"I don't want it to be one of those shows that runs out of gas," Mark Duffer said. "You wanna end when you're on top."

This is the mindset all shows need to have, though many do not. Shows like The CW's "Supernatural," FOX's "Glee," and ABC's "Grey's Anatomy" found their grooves and gained large fanbases, so they just continued to churn out more and more seasons. Once all originality was used up in the first few seasons, plot points became cliché and farfetched.

Continuing shows that people only watch out of a sort of obligation only causes resentment and an eventual drop in ratings and viewership. According to CinemaBlend, "Supernatural" drew 3–5 million viewers in its first few seasons but has dropped to around 2 million with more recent seasons.

"Supernatural" was renewed for a 13th season on Jan. 8, which resulted in a few cheers from hardcore fans and groans from the rest of the population.

"Glee" continued for three seasons too long, repeating the same formula and ruining a once amazing and unique show. This caused "Glee" to become the



butt of many past-your-prime jokes.

Shows like AMC's "Breaking Bad," NBC's "Parks and Recreation" and "Downton Abbey"—which began on ITV in the U.K. and aired in the U.S. on PBS—all chose to end before they ran out of ideas and ruined the intrigue they had created.

"Downton Abbey" lasted for six seasons that came to an end in 2015. The premiere of the final season drew 9.9 million viewers, only slightly down from 10.1 million and 10.2 million for the previous two seasons, according to a Jan. 5, 2016, article from Variety.

Executive Producer of "Downton Abbey" Gareth Neame told Entertainment Weekly March 27, 2015, "We wanted to leave them wanting more, leave while the show is in really robust health and a year or two earlier than you might expect, just so you can be sure to maintain the quality of the work."

Creating good TV is not about making the most money or having a show air for a ridiculous number of seasons. It is about making something of which to be proud—that other shows aspire to be.

"Stranger Things" is making a smart move by promising to follow in the footsteps of those beloved shows that didn't try to cling to the little life they have left. Nobody needs an 11th season in which the "Stranger Things" kids go to college and fight a monster that lives in the walls of their dorm.

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FROM THE FRONT ROW



Brian King, lead singer and guitarist of Canadian rock band Japandroids, performed Feb. 15 at the Vic Theatre, 3145 N. Sheffield Ave.

» G-JUN YAM/CHRONICLE

Comedian performs anniversary show in Chi-Town

featured artist



» Courtesy EMERY ENTERTAINMENT

Comedian Amadeo Fusca, star of Broadway in Chicago's current production "Men Are From Mars—Women Are From Venus," puts love on comedic display.

» **ARIEL PARRELLA-AURELI**
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

FOR AMADEO FUSCA, Feb. 14 was not just celebrating love. It was the 100th performance of his one-man show, "Men Are From

Mars—Women Are From Venus Live!," which opened in Chicago Feb. 14 and is produced by Emery Entertainment.

The show, which runs until March 5 at the Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place, 175 E.

Chestnut St., is a production of the Off-Broadway hit based on the 1992 New York Times best-selling book of the same name by relationship expert John Gray. The show, written by Eric Coble and starring Fusca, explores relationship vignettes with a comedic angle.

The Pittsburgh native has appeared on Netflix's "Dardevil," HBO's "Boardwalk Empire" and won the Friars Club "So You Think You Can Roast" contest in 2013, for which he got to roast famous comedians Jack Black, Sarah Silverman and Amy Schumer.

Before Fusca's Chicago premiere, The Chronicle spoke with him about the show, relationship lessons he has learned, and how his comedic skills have matured since he won the roasting contest.

THE CHRONICLE: What attracted you to the show?

AMADEO FUSCA: I'm an actor

comedian; I do all kinds of sketch improv, stand up, theater acting and film, so the show is like a big amalgamation of all that. I was very interested and drawn to what it was and wanted to work my a-- off to make sure I went in there with a really great, prepared audition to make sure I got the job.

What was it like to roast comedians such as Jack Black?

That experience was amazing. I won this competition, and this was in my early days of comedy, so it was surreal.

What did you learn from the competition and comedians?

I had a lot of big jokes, but I also had some jokes that didn't go over as well as I thought they would. As a young comedian, the things we fight with—as I have struggled with—is your fear of when something doesn't go according to plan. I've gotten to a point now where I

commit, stay loose, [and] know the material. There is no need to have to give over to that [fear].

What has this show taught you about your own relationships?

There's a lot of points I've applied to my own life, like I take out the trash. I've never thought anything of it [but my partner] appreciates it. Things like listening, understanding, [and] communicating better—stuff we take for granted.

What are the challenges and benefits of a one-man show?

The challenges are it's just me, but I have a great team behind me. The producers have been doing the show for a while. They present you with this script, but they bring in a new actor, so this show needs to feel personal to the actor. What they are so cool about is allowing me to go in there and transform and tweak a lot of the script in my own words and personal experiences.

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Local play 'breaks down' gender inequity

» **BLAIR PADDOCK**
ARTS & CULTURE REPORTER

DESPITE SOME PROGRESS in the arts, the predominance of mostly-male casts suggests Chicago theater is still filled with gender bias, according to a 2015–2016 study from DePaul University.

The study of casting disparity in large, Chicago equity productions from 2015 to 2016 found that 77 percent were majority male casts with the remainder majority female casts.

Collaboraction Theatre Company's "Gender Breakdown," a play with an all-female cast and production team, hopes to tackle these issues and spark conversation about equality in theater. The play will preview Feb. 21 at the Flat Iron Arts Building, 1579 N. Milwaukee Ave. in Wicker Park.

Creator Dani Bryant said the play explores the experiences of female-identifying theater artists in Chicago.

"It started with the hope to look at gender parity in the theater community, which leads into what we know about Hollywood and show business," Bryant said. "What we wanted to focus on was the gender balance of what it meant to be a female-identified theater artist in Chicago."

Director Erica Vannon said the play was inspired by dinner conversations that she, Bryant and other female-identifying theater artists had about the strengths and weaknesses of Chicago theater. A common theme, she said, was intersectionality—multilayered facets of oppression.

"Quickly, we moved from talking about just gender [to]

"Gender Breakdown" will preview Feb. 21 at the Flat Iron Arts Building, 1579 N. Milwaukee Ave.



» Courtesy ANNA SODZIAK

talking about what it meant to be a woman-of-color theater artist," Bryant said.

The play is experimental and nontraditional, Vannon said. Instead of just one main storyline, it goes back and forth between ensemble group scenes. It is

more thematically based around education, exploring what the actors were taught theatrically in school and in casting calls and how it has affected their careers, she added.

Anthony Moseley, artistic director at Collaboraction, said these

issues in the theater industry are parallel to other social issues in the country.

"Breaking down the patriarchy in this country, [looking at] data, and listening to stories from female-identified Chicago theater artists, it becomes really clear that we need to incite some change in our own industry," Moseley said.

Vannon said she hopes the play will attract people who are already starting to dig into their own preconceptions or prejudice and think about ways they can view equality.

In this political climate, she said creating art such as this feels like activism that can incite the community to talk about change.

"I hope theater artists will see their stories told onstage, but even the non-theater artist will be able to see it connect it back to their own career," Bryant said. "A lot of the misogyny and power dynamics that are experienced in a rehearsal room are the same with all women professions."

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film review

‘Fifty Shades Darker’ spends too much time in the light



» UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Anastasia Steele and Christian Grey get closer and forge a loving relationship less based on sex in the new “Fifty Shades Darker” film, released Feb. 10.

» ZOE EITEL
MANAGING EDITOR

THE FAMOUS BEN-WA ball scene is now on the big screen, so strangers can giggle awkwardly together

at Anastasia Steele’s reactions as she attends a masquerade ball wearing the little silver toys.

With less kink negotiation, “red room of pain” scenes and fewer cringeworthy moments—though

not completely devoid of them—“Fifty Shades Darker” is exactly what you’d expect from the sequel to the immensely popular “Fifty Shades of Grey,” released in 2015.

“Fifty Shades Darker,” directed by James Foley, was released Feb. 10 in time for Valentine’s Day. It follows E.L. James’ novel of the same name almost exactly, often taking its characters’ dialogue straight from the book with sometimes-laughable results. “Kinky f--kery,” really?

The best thing about the movie is that Steele (Dakota Johnson) and the infamous Christian Grey (Jamie Dornan) are much less awkward with each other than in the previous film. While their scenes in the first movie are almost unwatchable, in this movie they were more amusing and borderline endearing. Steele does not try as hard to be a sexy seductress because that is not who she is, and Grey lets himself open up, foregoing much of the brooding angst.

Though the characters are better thought out and well-executed, major plot points receive

less emphasis than sex scenes and talks about the couple’s relationship. Steele’s conflict with her scummy boss escalates at a ridiculously rapid pace and is resolved in just as little time, which is especially odd considering his important role in the third novel and presumably the next film.

When Grey’s helicopter crashes, his family has only about five minutes to worry about him before he walks through the door pretty much unscathed other than a small amount of blood on his forehead.

Grey’s former submissive and current gun-wielding nutcase Leila Williams is easily subdued and never heard from again after the single scene. It is also disconcerting how easily and quickly Steele takes Grey back at the beginning of the film after their break-up at the end of the first movie, but who wants to watch a movie in which the guy tries to win the girl back for half of it?

With the speed of those important scenes, others with less effect on the overall plot often drag. There are far too many deep

conversations about Grey’s past and their relationship in various states of undress that last 10 minutes or more. Steele walks around in the rain contemplating her life for about five whole minutes—c’mon. Yet, the movie never gets around to explaining Grey’s reason for getting into BDSM and why he has an issue with being touched or getting close to people, even though this was covered in the second book.

The ending takes some pointers from the end of “Twilight”—which inspired the “Fifty Shades” trilogy, originally written as fan fiction—by hinting that Steele’s creepy boss will figure prominently in the sequel. He is shown observing the main couple from afar as they have a good time and he stewes villainously in anger.

It may not be the best adaptation of a book to a film, but it only had so much to work with in the first place. Far from being terrible, it is actually entertaining and definitely rewatchable.

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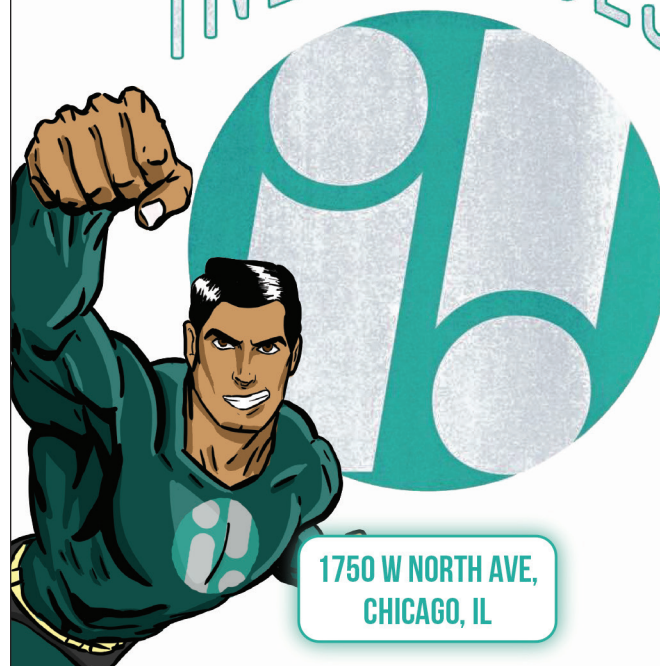
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FEATURED PHOTO



» KEVIN TIONGSON/CHRONICLE

On Valentine's Day, Jake Miller (left) and Alex G. (right) posed with their beagle mix Margo at River Shannon, 425 W. Armitage Ave. The Feb. 14 event "Pups & Pints," was a fundraiser for PAWS Chicago.

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An

STORY BY KENDRAH VILLIESSE

DESIGN BY ZOË HAWORTH

» WESLEY HEROLD/CHRONICLE

Massive red signs were scattered across the walls and clothing racks at American Apparel's Wicker Park store, reading "Sale" and "40% off entire store." Customers slowly rummaged through the merchandise, hoping to grab their favorite pieces before they were gone.

Sizes were dwindling on the racks, styles were being marked down to unheard-of prices while a mellow and sorrow vibe filled the small shop.

"There is a whole group of young fashionable individuals who center their style around American Apparel, so it closing is the end of an era," said Mariah Holstein, a teaching assistant at Roosevelt University, who has stopped at the Wicker Park location frequently since the announcement.

The scene was replicated all over the country. When fans heard the news of American Apparel's scheduled April 2017 closing date, they ran to their nearest store to snatch whatever they could, posting their finds on Twitter and informing others to grab everything while it is still there.

Other store closings are on their way. In the first few weeks of 2017, a cluster of retail stores including industry staples such as Macy's, Kmart and Sears and younger fashion spots such as Wet Seal and The Limited

announced the companies were either going out of business entirely or closing some or all of the brick-and-mortar stores. While the reasons for diminished sales vary, stores all have one thing in common: They're losing out to online shopping, which, according to a 2016 Pew Research Center survey of U.S. adults, is something that approximately eight out of 10 Americans have done.

Not every retail store is in trouble, but those that haven't adapted to new consumer behaviors are more likely to be on the chopping block, said David Bell, professor of marketing at The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

"[With] the rise of online and millennials and different modes of shopping, people are seeing that the in-store experience is potentially being less relevant to traditional brands," Bell said.

The cavernous department stores that used to draw crowds are now seen as exhausting when compared to the alternative shopping options.

"[Stores are] being transformed into something different," Bell said. "People still like physical spaces to experience brands, they still like physical interaction, but the idea of going onto a multi-product retail like a Macy's and rummaging through the rack and seeing if they have the right size, in a really low-experience environment, is a business model that is becoming less relevant and less desirable."

Macy's is one store trying to reinvent itself by promoting a seamless shopping experience between online and brick-and-mortar outlets, according to its most recent quarterly earnings report. To improve the Macy's shopping experience, the chain announced in August 2016 the closure of 100 of its 700

Anna Marevska, founder of Fashion Files, a popular Chicago-based magazine, briefly worked for Macy's and thought its customer experience was a letdown.

"The problem is not because it is a brick-and-mortar store; it is because they have not found their marketing and they haven't been targeting their audiences right," she said.

The customer treatment, store layout and merchandise collection are all factors that affect foot traffic in Macy's and other department stores are dying down, she said. Online boutiques have the advantage over brick-and-mortar stores as they can

**Online retail jobs
have increased
27.6%
from 2005–2015**

cater to niche markets and quickly adapt to trends, she noted.

"Stores like Net-A-Porter or even Asos curate to show the consumer how to buy, what to buy," Marevska said. "Brands like Macy's and The Limited are lacking that. They are a little bit stuck in the early 2000s, [and] unless they do a dramatic change with the way they treat their customer online and offline, it is not going to work out. The world is going in a different direction."

Consumers, especially those keeping up with fashion trends, do not want to look like everyone else. Another reason that large department stores are losing customers is because they are boring their usual customer, according to Allison Leahy, a fashion studies professor at Columbia. Last holiday season, part of the reason Macy's was downsizing so much was because the store did not see a normal level of sales both online and in stores, she said.

Customers prefer to click on their computers or phones rather than fight the crowds, she noted.

"Online purchasing—they are just so strong," said Leahy. "The competition is coming from Amazon."

Not all brick-and-mortar stores are struggling to stay afloat; shops such as Nordstrom and outlets such as T.J. Maxx are doing exceptionally well and have both online and physical shops. Both offer unique benefits to shoppers. Nordstrom is noted for its exemplary customer service, earning a place in the 2013 listing of the 25 best companies in America, compiled by The Motley Fool investment site.

T.J. Maxx, known for its "high fashion for less" advertising, has nearly eight years of consecutive growth in earnings, according to an Aug. 20, 2016 article by Business Insider.

The discount-orientated brand has latched onto a formula that appeals to many millennials—fashion that is fast, unique and cheap.

"People are looking for things that are low-cost that they don't really have to care about," said Kendrick Hagwood, a sophomore fashion studies major. "People want stuff that is stylish, people want stuff that is cool, but people don't want to pay a lot for it."

Millennials are emerging as critical to a retailer's success, and they have a clear preference for online shopping, as evidenced by a 2016 joint survey by UPS and comScore, a marketing research firm. The survey of 5330 panelists found that 54 percent of millennials had made a non-grocery online purchase in the last three months, compared with 49 percent of non-millennials.

For shoppers of all ages, the convenience of online shopping is a key factor. As Bell noted, "We don't really go to Walmart anymore. I can go to Amazon.com and buy staples and ship to my home; I don't need to go to the mall anymore, I can go to Farfetch.com and buy all of my clothes."

The reason for the drastic change in consumer behavior also has to do with social media being one of the most common forms of communication, said Jaeha Lee, associate professor of apparel, retail merchandising and design at North Dakota State University.

"Many brands and retailers are doing promotions with social networking services and social media," Lee said. "It is easier, more convenient, and is more interactive. [Stores] can communicate easily with social media, and it is more friendly [to the user]."

Bell said social media is free advertising for a brand because the brand's audience now has audiences of its own in the form of followers.

"In the digital economy, if 100 people come into a store, at the end of the day, maybe 10,000 people know about the brand," Bell said. "If a person came into the store and maybe blogged or posted on their Instagram feed, where they photographed what was going on, it brings much more amplification out of a physical space than it used to."

Amazon and eBay are the leading online destinations, according to July 2016 research by comScore, and it's easy to see why: Both offer an immense variety of merchandise at a variety of prices and emphasize good customer service.

Amazon's quick deliveries and variety of products are the reasons it ranked No. 1 in 2014 for University of Michigan's American Consumer Satisfaction Index, according to a Dec. 20, 2014, article from Market Watch.

"The main thing that makes [these stores] so successful is that you can get stuff for cheaper," Hagwood said. "You can get stuff that you can't necessarily get anywhere else, you can even get nice stuff for super cheap."

As digital shopping continues to gain ground, the move away from brick-and-mortar storefronts is likely to be painful and displace many workers.

With the closing of American Apparel's 110 stores and their Los Angeles headquarters, 3,400 American factory positions will be lost, according to a Jan. 14 article in the L.A. Times. However, online retail jobs are increasing, according to a Dec. 22, 2015, study from the Department of Labor, which found a 27.6 percent increase from 2005–2015.

For apparel manufacturing in America, employment has decreased by more than 80 percent from 1990 to 2011 alone. However, President Donald Trump's plan to incentivize American manufacturers to stay in the U.S. may change those numbers.

"The current administration is big on trying to retain and encourage development of American brands and American manufacturing," Bell said. "There have been pretty high-profile stores that are going by the wayside, which would indicate that the value proposition is not really designating with the customers that are doing the spending."

The future of American manufacturing factories for apparel will be based on what the consumer is going to want to spend, and

**Employment for apparel
manufacturing in America
has decreased more than**

**80%
from 1990–2011**

the future of manufacturing will affect the future of American-based retail.

"Consumers are looking for low-cost; they are not looking to pay the cost to make a product in the U.S.," Leahy said. "I don't think consumers will shift their buying habits in order to buy U.S. made products."

If retail stores are nimble enough to change, they can increase their longevity by creating cheap and chic garments and accessories for their customers.

"If [a place] like Macy's or The Limited wants to appeal to that chic customer, they have to be more different—they have to offer something more unique," Marevska said.

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**3,400
American factory
positions will
be lost due to
American Apparel**

retail stores, so it could direct resources into top-performing stores, the report stated.

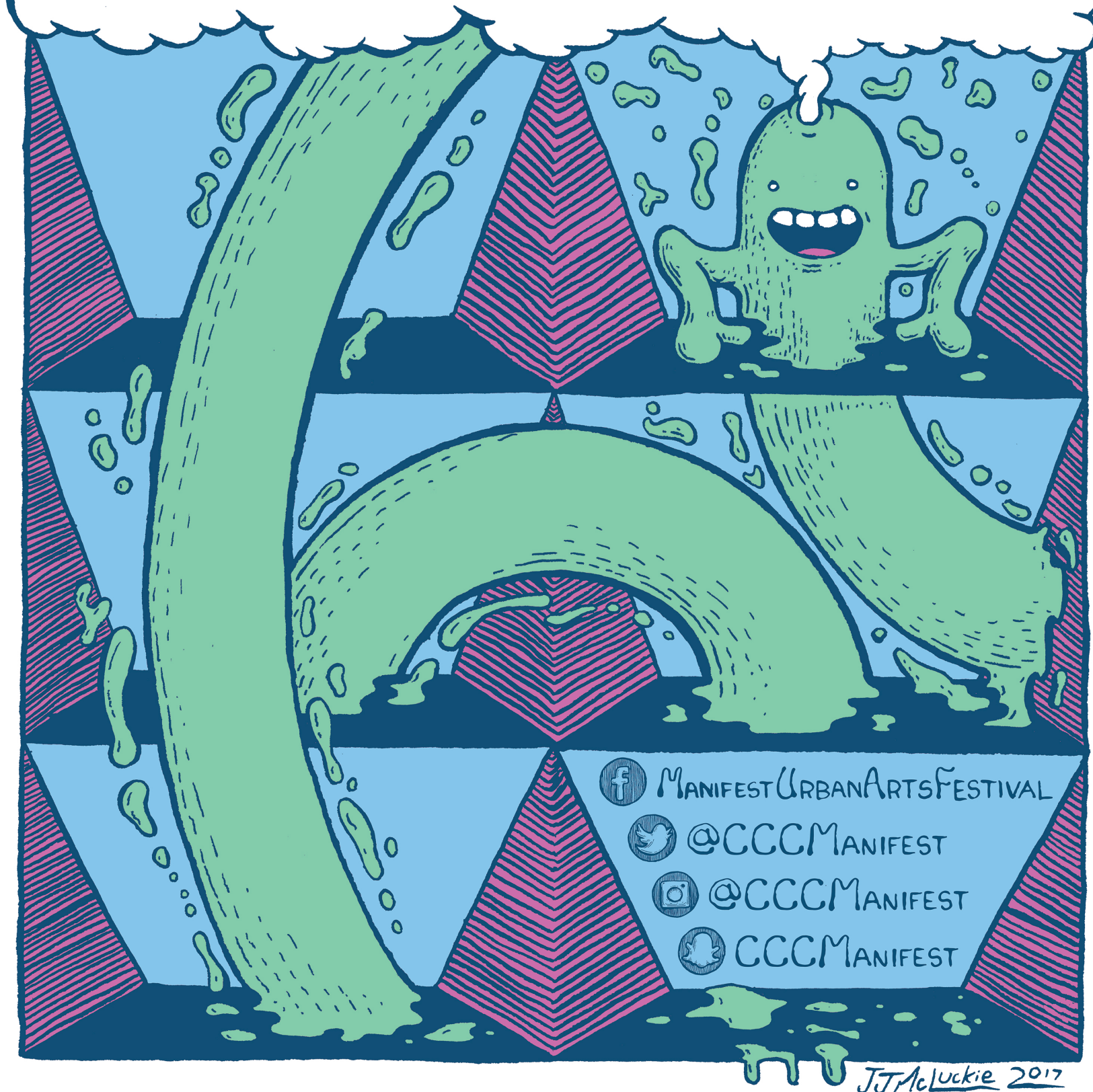
But whether that will succeed remains to be seen. According to a Jan. 4 Macy's press release, Terry J. Lundgren, chairman and CEO of Macy's Inc., said the decline in foot traffic has continued.

MAY 12, 2017

MANIFEST

URBAN ARTS FESTIVAL

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» ARIEL PARRELLA-AURELI
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

Reggae? Check. Jazz? Check. Rock? Check. Psychedelic? Check. Blending different music genres can be a juggling game, but Sinkane’s jazz-electro-African music does the job while offering some guidance for navigating life.

“If we illuminate ourselves / We’ll overcome / Find something to love,” sings Ahmed Gallab, the man behind the moniker, on the song “U’Huh.” The London-born, Sudanese and American-raised artist is all over the board with his percussion-heavy music, but just like his cultural background, he proves he cannot be categorized.

Sinkane played with indie rock bands of Montreal and Caribou in 2008, which helped him gain musical success and start Sinkane. The New York-based musician’s new album, *Life & Livin’ It*, was released Feb. 10, just in time for his Chicago show Feb. 23 at Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. Chicago is the first place Gallab played as Sinkane, so coming back to the Windy City will be a special treat, he said.

The Chronicle spoke to Gallab about New York, visiting new cities and how his cultural music background influences his sound.

Sinkane returns to Chicago with new album

THE CHRONICLE: How has your background influenced your music?

AHMED GALLAB: I was able to experience how a lot of young people experience the world. Throughout the U.S. and in Sudan, everyone experienced the world differently and was exposed to information very different from one another. What I realized is we are all connected, and we are all very similar in understanding and feeling things. Although young kids experience the world differently in Ohio versus Sudan, when they do feel happy—they feel happy the same way.



Sinkane, Sudanese-American singer Ahmed Gallab, released his latest album *Life & Livin’ It* Feb. 10 and will play Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. Feb. 23.

I would find these relationships with all different kinds of music, and they would make me feel the same. I went back and did a bunch of research on all these kinds of music, and I realized they were all connected.

When you are touring in a new city, what is the first thing you want to know about it?

Where to eat. Eating is the most important part of touring, other than playing music, obviously. You have to eat well, and it’s the one thing that will expose you to the culture

of the town in the most honest way. Barbecue is my favorite and really, whatever is local to the town—and in America—barbecue seems to be one of the biggest cultural aspects.

How has New York’s music scene treated you?

It has been very welcoming and very fun because it has been a bit of a challenge. There are a lot of people who live in New York who want to do music and are just as ambitious as I am, so it has been a challenge trying to figure out my place. But the community here—now more than ever—has been so beautiful because when I moved to New York [in 2009] a lot of the indie bands [were] blowing up and were super competitive. The more they got attention, the more they became interested in what was going to happen for themselves.

Now, the scene is a bunch of musicians that want to play together, do a bunch of projects and have fun. Getting the opportunity to do something beyond that feels great and everyone gives each other a high five. It has allowed me to become a better musician, and the fans are really excited about everything.

My music is very diverse and it melds a lot of different cultures and that is what New York is about: It’s a melting pot of people.

aparrella@chroniclemail.com

▶

Blooming into spring

Staff Playlist

» JAMES FIRKINS
COPY EDITOR

"Pump Up The Jam"

Technotronic

"Kids"

MGMT

"Elm"

Clever Girl

"California Love"

2Pac

"Little April Shower"

Bambi

» ARIEL PARRELLA-AURELI
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

"Kinda Bonkers"

Animal Collective

"Bein' Green"

Van Morrison

"Skinny Jeans"

Anthonie Tonnon

"Favorite Song"

Sinkane

"Another Day of Sun"

La La Land Cast

» CHARLIE CONNELLY
AD & BUSINESS MANAGER

"Tickle"

Eye Lips Eyes

"Name For You"

The Shins

"Mr. Blue Sky"

ELO

"Down to the River"

The Dukhs

"Summer Montage"

Justin Hurwitz

» KEVIN TIONGSON
PHOTO EDITOR

"Have A Nice Day"

Stereophonics

"Lets Go Surfing"

The Drums

"New Direction"

Black Lips

"Learning to Breathe"

Switchfoot

"Runnin' Down A Dream"

Tom Petty

CHECK *me* OUT

WHAT IS YOUR GO-TO PAIR OF SHOES?

» PHOTOS ESTHER BELL/CHRONICLE



Stormy Beauchamp
junior business & entrepreneurship major

"Boots."



Andrea Calvetti
senior cinema art and science major

"Red Wings."



Mira Horwitz
sophomore photography major

"Orange Doc Martins."



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baby Coconut Macaroons

ESTHER BELL
PHOTO EDITOR

With the cold weather, it is easy to daydream of a weekend beach getaway while sipping a tropical drink from a coconut. Unfortunately, that may not be possible, which is why this recipe is such a hit. These incredibly refreshing coconut cookies are best baked as small bite-sized treats. A fun extra step is to dunk half the macaroon into melted chocolate and let cool until hardened.

ebell@chroniclemail.com

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ cups flaked coconut
- 4 tablespoons all purpose flour
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- 4 egg whites
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F
2. Combine coconut flakes, flour, sugar and salt in a mixing bowl. Stir in egg whites and vanilla extract, mix well.
3. Drop rounded tea-spoon-sized mix onto greased baking sheets, bake for 18–20 minutes or until golden brown. Allow time to cool.



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top

our staff's
top 5 picks:

video & blog reviews



Video: “The World of Pokémon GO has Expanded!”

Wait, people still play this? Obviously enough people do to warrant introducing second generation Pokémon. Actual combat system? No. Ability to duel one on one? You wish. More mindless tapping at a colorful screen? Yeah, why not? Pokémon GO is still the perfect way to ruin a good walk.



Blog: “psychofactz.net”

Interested in psychology? Ever wondered what goes on in your brain? Look no further than psychofactz.net. This blog that posts pictures with short facts on them gives you a blast of knowledge in a matter of seconds along with the ability to learn about human behavior, and more. Enjoy these fun facts and discover why your friends might be acting they way they do.



BOB MARLEY SONGS

» CAROLYN BRADLEY
COPY CHIEF

“Soul Rebel”:

“Soul Rebel” is a favorite of mine. If I’m ever feeling down, I can always count on this melody to cheer me right up. There’s something about the rhythm that lifts spirits and boosts confidence.

“Get Up, Stand Up”:

This one should be blasted loudly—especially now. It’s perfect for solidarity and sticking firmly to your beliefs. The lyrics make a powerful political statement and give the encouraging message to keep up the fight no matter what.

“Redemption Song”:

This somber ballad was Marley’s way of accepting his own mortality. You can feel the bittersweetness he felt in the lyrics. It’s a gorgeous song to listen to when falling asleep or when you just need to relax.

“Trench Town Rock”:

I love every single moment of this song, each part is different. It’s a number I can just let myself enjoy and dance along with to my heart’s content. Most importantly, it sings out one of my favorite quotes: “One good thing about music—when it hits you, you feel no pain.”

“Could You Be Loved”:

A perfect song to end a party. You can’t help but get up and dance to this classic jam. Not only does it have the same down-beat rhythm of many reggae songs, it’s also catchy enough to listen to at any point of high energy. Listen closely to these lyrics, too; they’re more than just background noise.



COCKNEY RHYMING SLANG

» JAMES FIRKINS
COPY EDITOR

Apples and Pears—Stairs:

Gangsters in the East End of London created a spoken code called Cockney rhyming slang in case undercover coppers were listening in. Today, it has become a part of everyday speech in London. The most widely known is “Apples and Pears,” as in, “I’m going up the Apples and Pears to bed.”

Two and Eight—State:

This one can be confusing for people in America. Most people associate the word “state” with the states of the U.S., but in Cockney rhyming slang it means to have become a mess. For example: “You should have seen them after the tenth shot of absinthe. They were a right two and eight!”

Bees and Honey—Money:

We have a saying in the U.K.: “No bees, no honey; no work, no money.” Bees are nature’s little workers, so it makes sense to link them with productivity, hard work and money.

Ruby Murray—Curry:

In the U.K., Indian cuisine is essential to a good night out. It’s customary to only say the first half of the slang, resulting in many of London’s Indian restaurants simply naming themselves “The Ruby.”

Barack Obama—Pajamas:

Not all Cockney rhyming slang is old; it’s actually constantly updating. Here is a brilliant one from 2008: “I can’t wait to get home, put on my Barackas and watch Netflix.” I’ll leave you to wonder what “Donald Trump” will become.



TAYLOR SWIFT QUOTES

» LAUREN CARLTON
COPY EDITOR

On letting go:

“Hang on, it gets easier, and then it gets okay, and then it feels like freedom.” This quote can come any handy for the loss of anything. When life gets challenging, Taylor is there for you.

For when you think the world is against you:

“You are not the opinion of someone who doesn’t know you.” Hearing or reading something about yourself that you know isn’t true can be toxic for your mind. Taylor reminds us to not listen to the “haters” but to just “shake it off.”

On motivation to be yourself:

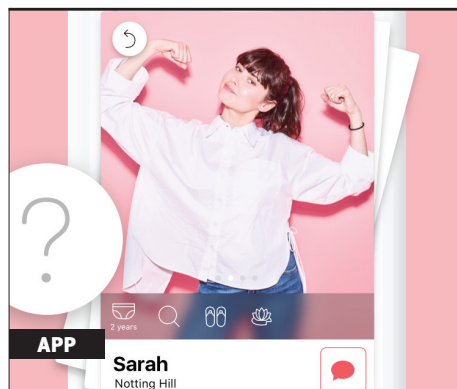
“I’m intimidated by the fear of being average.” It’s important to be yourself. Don’t be afraid to stand out. Each of us has something unique to offer the world and you don’t want to hold that quality back.

A reminder to not be so hard on yourself:

“Sometimes people have a tendency to see others highlight reel and compare it with the behind-the-scenes of our own lives.” Social media can be harmful when it comes to self-perception. Don’t let someone’s “perfectly filtered” photo make you think your “early morning candid” isn’t just as great.

On not giving up:

“You are not going nowhere just because you haven’t gotten where you want to go yet.” Taylor reminds us it’s simply about not giving up.



PEANUT APP

» **ARIEL PARRELLA-AURELI**
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

Kids don't wanna just have fun—mamas do too. This new lifestyle app is almost like a dating app for mothers to attract other mothers who want to create a mama club! Peanut, released Feb. 9, aims to connect new mothers with each other and talk all things mama. There is no doubt that parenting is hard, but with a little help from Peanut, it doesn't have to be.



SCREEN

'THE ABSTRACT: THE ART OF THE DESIGN'

» **ETHAN STOCKING-ANDERSON**
OPERATIONS COORDINATOR

Netflix's new eight-episode documentary, which premiered Feb. 10, takes a look into the world of design that is sometimes drenched with pretension, but it is certainly beautiful and intriguing. That's to be expected; what was unexpected is the way it brilliantly deconstructs the art of documentary filming in the process of following these artists around.

KATY PERRY



MUSIC

KATY PERRY'S 'CHAINED TO THE RHYTHM'

» **ARABELLA BRECK**
MANAGING EDITOR

If Katy Perry's new song released Feb. 9 sounds familiar, it's probably because it sounds like every other Top 40 song. The genre that best fits this song would be "bland pop," and don't even get me started on how she completely stole Lady Gaga's aesthetic for her recent promotional photos and merchandise. Perry needs to get more original if she wants to stay relevant.



RANDOM

LUNA CAFÉ RESTAURANT

» **ZOË EITEL**
MANAGING EDITOR

This new restaurant on Columbia's campus replaced the mediocre Chicago Kitchen on Harrison Street. The menu has more options such as chicken tenders and a ribeye steak sandwich, although it is still open only until 3 p.m. It takes a long time to get food, so maybe calling ahead is a better idea. It also doesn't have smoothies anymore, but Chicago Kitchen never did either.



TECH

NOKIA 3310 RELAUNCH

» **KEVIN TIONGSON**
PHOTO EDITOR

Remember the Nokia 3310 released in 2000? It was the phone that seemed to never break, and the battery would last forever. Leaks of a new version emerged, which will be announced at the end of February at the Mobile World Congress. The phone will be marketed as a low-cost alternative to smartphones. With people complaining about running out of battery or their phones cracking, this could be the perfect solution.



SCREEN

BEYONCÉ'S GRAMMY PERFORMANCE

» **BLAIR PADDOCK**
ARTS & CULTURE REPORTER

Queen B stole the show during the 2017 Grammys—as usual. Even though her album "Lemonade" did not win Album of the Year, her stage presence and voice illuminated the night. Her outfit? Incredible. Her vocals? Spectacular. That she did all of this while pregnant with twins? Unheard of. This was not a performance—it was an experience, and the best part was Blue Ivy dancing along.



MUSIC

NICK JONAS AND NICKI MINAJ'S 'BOM BIDI BOM'

» **ZOË EITEL**
MANAGING EDITOR

From the killer beat to Nick Jonas' catchy chorus and Nicki Minaj's fire verse, this song is exactly what I needed from the "Fifty Shades Darker" soundtrack. It wasn't nearly as annoying as Zayn and Taylor Swift's collab for the album, "I Don't Wanna Live Forever," or as cliché as Halsey's "Not Afraid Anymore." The only complaint I have is that Nicki only had one real verse, and I needed much more of the Queen of Rap.



RANDOM

CEE LO GREEN'S GRAMMY OUTFIT

» **KENDRAH VILLIESSE**
ARTS & CULTURE REPORTER

At the 2017 Grammys on Feb. 12, singer and songwriter Cee Lo Green wore an outfit that became a meme faster than you can say, "What the heck?" Cee Lo looked like he dipped himself in shiny gold before heading straight to the Grammys' red carpet. Twitter compared his outfit to a Ferrero Rocher candy and a C3PO lookalike from "Star Wars." His look was definitely a show-stopper.



Lake Shore Drive Project is not beneficial to environment

The North Lake Shore Drive Project—an estimated \$500 million proposal to smooth out the dangerous S-bend of Lake Shore Drive—has added a new addition to its blueprints: a 70-acre beach jutting into Lake Michigan, according to a Feb. 9 Chicago Curbed article.

The expensive project has not yet been approved and has been on the table since 2013, but the newly proposed acreage brings up questions of whether it will be environmentally safe and affordable.

Major upgrades to the beaches on Oak and Ohio streets would be made, along with a man-made island between Grand and North avenues that would reportedly protect the lakefront against erosion.

Though the project has good intentions—fixing the hazardous curve while bringing in extra tourism—it would require pushing beaches into the lake and

cushioning them with the 70 acres of new park land. Man-made structures could cause erosion and sand loss, according to an Aug. 31, 2016 Chicago Tribune article.

The newly proposed acreage [in the North Lake Shore Drive Project] brings up questions of whether it will be environmentally safe and affordable. ”

Additionally, new entry and exit lanes will need to be built off the drive, which would run beneath a new underpass to clear traffic, according to a Feb. 9 DNAinfo article. The project would

require the cooperation of multiple local, state and federal entities such as the Department of Transportation and the United States Army Corps of Engineers and take several years to construct.

If the project is approved, its supporters need to be transparent with Chicagoans on the environmental impact on Lake Michigan. Last spring, Lake Michigan rose to a near-record level high and beaches shrunk due to erosion, according to a May 17, 2016 Chicago Tribune article. After a record low depth in 2013, the lake rose

University proposed a \$6 million lake fill project in 1987. The project included a 16-acre extension into Lake Michigan, which would be protected by a rock and concrete seawall, according to an Oct. 1, 1987 Tribune article. Similar to the North Lake Shore Drive Project, neighborhood associations and officials backed the Loyola proposal. However, a study made a strong case for significant damage to the environment if Loyola went through with the project.

Such evidence makes it hard to support a project that does not seem environmentally sound. Also, the price tag could be used to solve more important problems affecting Chicagoans. These include CTA restoration for lines such as the Orange, Pink and Green and safer street construction in the South and West sides.

Upholding the “Chicago Lakefront Design and Connection with its Northern Neighbor” public mandate—implemented in 1836 and promising to keep Chicago forever open, clear and free—is important and necessary. However, if this project is supposed to be beneficial for the city, Chicagoans should be informed of the environmental costs and financial resources being used and have the opportunity to vote on whether to proceed.

Student Center funds may need back-up plan

The former Johnson Publishing Company building, an 11-story tower that housed the company that published EBONY and JET magazines and several other publications that were icons to the black community, is under consideration for Historic Landmark status, according to a Feb. 2 press release from Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

Columbia purchased the building in late 2010 for an estimated \$8 million, according to a June 14, 2016 Chicago Business article. Columbia planned to convert it into a library and then considered it for its proposed student resource center but decided students needed a more open space. Now, Columbia

plans to use the profits from selling the Johnson building to help pay for the upcoming \$50 million student center for which has hired an architecture firm to begin the planning phase completed in the 2015–2016 academic year.

Now that the building is up for historic landmark status, it could be less marketable for the college because of the restrictions that go along with this designation. According to college spokeswoman Anjali Julka, the building has not been sold as of press time.

Landmark status is a prestigious honor, but Columbia needs to be very conscious of whether the Johnson building can sell. If it can’t, Columbia

should either halt the plans to create a new student center entirely or develop a new, less expensive concept.

Though Columbia likely won’t take money out of students’ tuition to pay for the student center if the sale falls through,

about such as getting new desks, carpets and computers and keeping tuition at the same rate every year.

In its vacant state, the building is not benefiting anyone at Columbia, especially students. Though it has obvious

Landmark status is a prestigious honor, but Columbia needs to be conscious of whether the Johnson building can sell. ”

the administration needs to be extremely clear about how it plans to finance the building without this source of revenue.

Another option is to find alternate uses for the center’s projected \$50 million budget. The priority should be to fix problems students are concerned

historical significance and held in reverence by the African-American community, Columbia must be responsive to the needs of its students, which may not involve a student center. If the money isn’t available, Columbia should not even be considering pursuing it.

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Why not write a letter to the editor? At the bottom of Page 2, you’ll find a set of guidelines on how to do this. Let us hear from you. —**The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board**



COMMENTARY

‘SNL’ proves comedy is important during Trump era

» BROOKE PAWLING STENNETT
OPINIONS EDITOR

Melissa McCarthy was almost unrecognizable as White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer in

a Feb. 4 episode of “Saturday Night Live.” Dressed in a well-fitted suit and an impeccable fake receding hairline, McCarthy stepped in front of a replicated White House podium with a scowl on her face.

“Before we begin, I know that myself and the press have gotten off to a rocky start,” McCarthy said to a cheering audience. “In the sense when I say ‘rocky start’ I mean it in the sense of ‘Rocky’ the movie because I came here to punch you in the face.”

Throughout the presidential election, “SNL” cast members donned wigs, accents and outfits to channel political figures who had willingly placed themselves in the spotlight. Kate McKinnon as Secretary Hillary Clinton, Alec Baldwin as President Donald Trump and Cecily Strong as First Lady Melania Trump, to name a few.

During the Trump era, people need something to laugh about. A constant onslaught of aggressive politics can cause anyone to switch off the news with disgust. By bringing humor and politics together, “SNL” is helping facilitate a dialogue in a time of political uncertainty. It’s important for people to have something to laugh about when being bombarded by breaking news headlines, and viewers are latching on to this coping mechanism.

According to a Feb. 8 A.V. Club article, “SNL’s” viewership grew by 19 percent among adults 18–49 and 22 percent in total viewers compared with the previous season. “SNL” hit a total of 10.6 million

cast members, they have allowed millennials to come to their own conclusions after watching a sketch.

Spicer reacted to McCarthy’s popular sketch in a Feb. 5 interview

‘SNL’ is helping facilitate a dialogue in a time of political uncertainty. ”

viewers in ratings for the episode that aired before the article was published; it was the highest NBC had seen since the 1994–1995 season during former President Bill Clinton’s first term.

Tuning in to watch “SNL” cover the onslaught of breaking news is monumental, especially for this generation. Though comedy and politics have had a long history, the Trump era is a time that needs to be looked at through the lens of entertainment.

Comedians are encouraging viewers to look at Trump’s decisions in different ways and form opinions. Many young people are now getting their news from the show. Though that could create unnecessary pressure for the “SNL”

with Extra by saying it was funny, but McCarthy could “dial it back.”

Spicer’s reaction was tame compared with Trump’s after he watched Baldwin’s impersonation, tweeting on Jan. 15, “. . . Saturday Night Live is the worst of NBC. Not funny, cast is terrible, always a complete hit job.”

When comedians are touching the nerves of politicians, it means they are doing their job right. If anyone is complacent with letting the world rage on in a political battle, everyone loses. At least McKinnon— who impersonated Kellyanne Conway in a silk nightgown on Feb. 11—can say she’s fighting back.

bpawlingstennett@chroniclemail.com

STUDENT POLL

What’s your favorite place to study for midterms?

“The ninth floor computer lab always struck me as a great place to study.”



DEVONTE GRIFFITH
senior art &
art history major

ABBI CHASE SIMS
senior photography
major



“The digital lab. I practically live [there].”



ANJA BOLTZ
sophomore cinema art
and science

“Fifth floor at [33 E. Congress] because they have the cubbies.”



Beyoncé’s loss points to larger issue in music industry

» LAUREN CARLTON
COPY EDITOR

The 2017 Grammys aired Feb. 12, and when Adele’s album *25* beat Beyoncé’s *Lemonade* for Album of the Year, which spawned the hashtag #grammyssowhite. Many tweets focused on whether race is the reason Beyoncé lost, according to a Feb. 13 CNN article.

Adele didn’t let this escape her notice. She genuinely thought Beyoncé deserved the award and gave credit where credit was due.

In Adele’s acceptance speech, she spoke to Beyoncé, saying, “The way you make my black friends feel is empowering, and you make them stand up for themselves.”

At the end of her speech, Adele broke her trophy in half. Artists, especially women artists, should be sticking up for each other and speaking out against potential structural racism like Adele did in that moment.

Lemonade touched on film, literature, black womanhood and the Black Lives Matter Movement in a way that reframed the mainstream, which forces the question of why Adele’s album was chosen the winner. In the past, the Grammys have put sales above craft, but not this time. This time it is race above content.

Black artists being snubbed for awards they are expected to win seems to be a recurring theme of the Grammys. Other black artists who have lost to white artists for the Album of the Year award include Kendrick Lamar’s losing to Daft Punk in 2014 and Frank Ocean to Mumford and Sons in 2013. Both *To Pimp a Butterfly* by Lamar and *Channel*

Orange by Ocean were groundbreaking—Lamar for his push back against the negative stereotypes of black men, while Ocean’s touched on being bisexual, which is unheard of in the R&B genre.

This also isn’t the first time Beyoncé has lost to a white artist after releasing a groundbreaking album. In 2013, Beck’s album *Morning Phase* beat Beyoncé’s eponymous effort for Album of the Year. According to a CNN article from Feb. 10, 2015, when Beck’s album came out in February 2014, *Morning Phase* got strong reviews but soon disappeared from the charts.

It’s important to recognize experiences that artists such as Beyoncé talk about in their music, which promote feminism and empowerment in the black community. Adele started a conversation that society has been needing to hear for years. We must start recognizing artists for awards not only because of sales, but for what their music speaks to, and how it makes others feel.

Maybe Adele breaking her trophy will be enough to get the Academy to listen and make changes.

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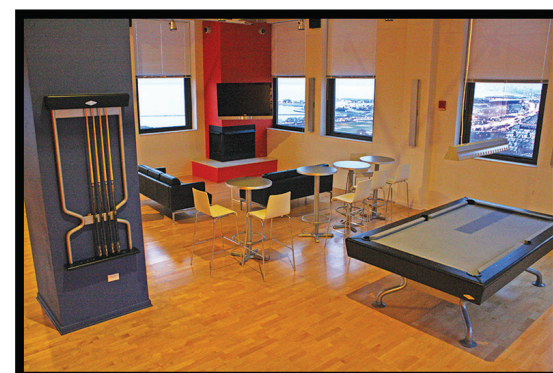
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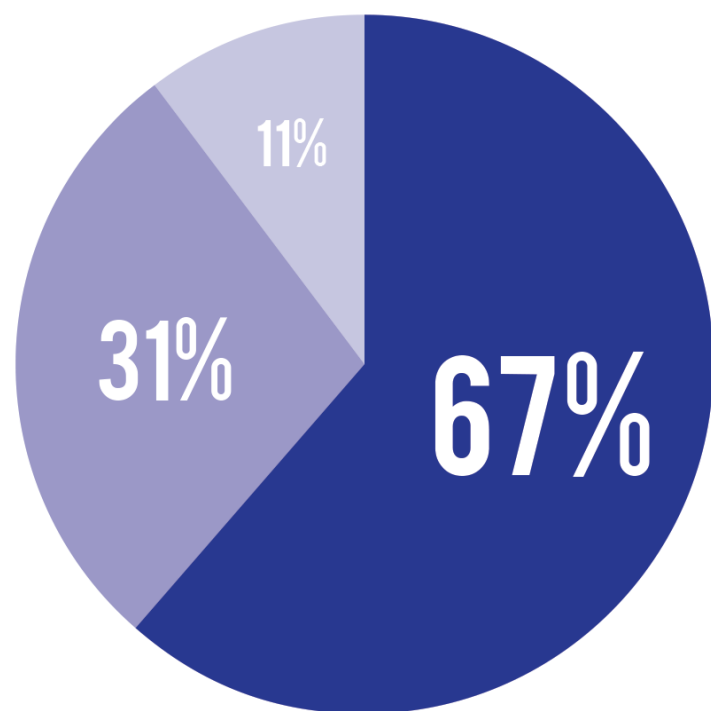


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Study finds problems with CPD officers in schools



- School officers with 1 or more IPRA complaints
- School officers with 3 or more IPRA complaints
- School officers with 10 or more IPRA complaints

» GABRIEL DE LA MORA/CHRONICLE

creating more social and emotional support avenues for students.

“We appreciate the recommendations brought forward by the Shriver Center,” Passman said. “We will seriously consider all potential opportunities to maintain our safe school environments while further strengthening school climates.”

According to the report, security officers are hired by CPS and required to go through a three-day training course consisting of de-escalation techniques and crisis prevention. However, the school resource officers who are the subject of this report are hired by CPD and only required to have a working knowledge of the CPS Student Code of Conduct.

According to the code of conduct, CPS students have the right to tell their side of the story before receiving discipline or consequences, and school staff has the responsibility to intervene and de-escalate inappropriate behavior.

Police officers in schools could play a valuable role as mentors as long as

thinking about alternatives to the culture that we have, which is about arrests. It’s about punishment and not about addressing the trauma that children have been through and the need for other approaches.”

Junge said the study and the recent Department of Justice report, which accused Chicago police of civil rights violations of Chicagoans, as reported Jan. 13 by The Chronicle, should provoke an in-depth investigation into CPD practices.

“What is needed are social workers and people who are trained in conflict resolution,” Junge said. “I don’t think criminal justice is the approach that should be used to [solve] disciplinary problems within schools.”

According to the study, the lack of officer training disposes school police to react harshly to students, which “fast tracks” them toward the “school-to-prison pipeline.”

When juveniles are put into the criminal justice system, Junge said, they have a higher percentage of recidivism that could affect a student’s future ability to be employed or go to college.

According to the Cook County Board of Commissioners, the Cook County Juvenile Detention Center is one of the largest in the

The school-to-prison pipeline is as distinct and visible as possible here in Chicago

—DAMON WILLIAMS

they receive proper training and education in adolescent psychology and their roles are properly defined, said Candice Hughes, an associate psychology professor at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology.

Hughes said it is important for adults working with students to understand child and adolescent psychology because the students they are working with are in their developmental years, and a lack of training could damage students—especially those with mental health issues.

“There are many dimensions of an adolescent’s or child’s life that need to be taken into consideration,” Hughes said. “Some basic training for police officers could not hurt.”

The high numbers of complaints speak volumes to both the lack of accountability and training within CPD, according to Emilie Junge, a Chicago-based attorney who works on criminal record expungement—the legal process of sealing criminal records.

“[Police officers] should absolutely not be in the schools,” Junge said. “We have to start

nation, and Williams said it is a “product” of how CPS and CPD are “failing young people.”

“The school-to-prison pipeline is as distinct and visible as possible here in Chicago,” Williams said. “Young people are used to seeing police officers more than nurses and mental health professionals.”

Williams said he would like to see the communities as well as city officials take a more critical look at accusations of police misconduct in order to understand how “unjust” and “oppressive” it is to place police officers in underfunded schools.

The CPD News Affairs Office did not respond for comment as of press time.

“If we want our children to be safe in schools, we need to invest in making sure there are people there that are serving the actual needs [of students],” Williams said. “[School resource officers] are not serving any needs, they’re just sucking up resources that can be used for someone who can be more helpfully involved in the community.”

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» ERIC BRADACH
METRO EDITOR

LACK OF TRAINING and accountability for Chicago police officers assigned to public schools has led to the spending of millions of taxpayer dollars to settle lawsuits and the continuation of the “school-to-prison pipeline,” according to a recent study on juveniles in the criminal justice system.

The study, “Handcuffs in Hallways: the State of Policing in Chicago Public Schools,” on Chicago Police Department’s role in schools as “school resource officers,” was released Feb. 8 by The Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, a Chicago-based advocacy and research group.

According to the report, 248 police officers are assigned to CPS schools as of April 2016, and their lack of training leads to misconduct. Sixty-seven percent of the officers have

had complaints filed against them through the Independent Police Review Authority. Meanwhile, 31 percent had three or more complaints filed, and 11 percent had 10 or more complaints. More than \$2 million has been paid to settle misconduct lawsuits between 2012 and 2016, the study states.

Damon Williams, the co-director of #LetUsBreathe Collective—an activist group seeking police accountability—said he was not surprised when he learned about the study’s findings.

“[CPD] does not spend many resources on restorative communal relationships,” she said. “To know these militarized agents are in these schools without any specific guidelines is sadly something I would expect.”

A Feb. 13 emailed statement from CPS spokesman Michael Passman said the district is currently decreasing the number of police and security officers in schools and is

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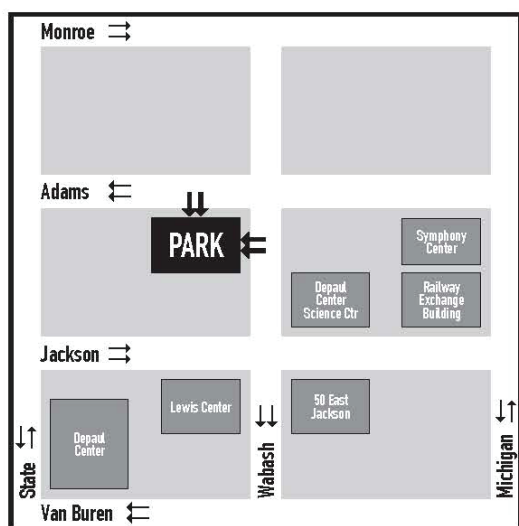
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»ARABELLA BRECK
MANAGING EDITOR

**Human rights advocates
needed now more than ever**

Because of drastic human rights concerns around the world, the U.N. Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner presented its largest appeal ever—\$253 million for 2017, according to a Feb. 15 article from the U.N. News Centre.

One reason for the larger funding request is that the Human Rights Office is underfunded in a time when human rights violations are far too prevalent. Because of insufficient funding last year, the Human Rights Office was not able to give support to 12 countries that requested assistance, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, stated in the United Nations Human Rights Appeal 2017.

The reasoning for this amount “is a cry not to despair but to action,” Al Hussein said in the appeal.

An appeal of this size shows that one of the most pressing concerns in 2017 is the protection of human rights globally. One of the keys to solving human rights issues today is the commitment and collaboration of leaders worldwide.

The leaders of countries have the power to send a message through legislation and campaigns within their own nations about the importance of human rights, but they also have the power to send a message to other countries about the importance of protecting the rights of every person. Unfortunately, international leaders are also one of the greatest threats to human rights today because of some who have a blatant disregard for international standards when it comes to the human rights of their citizens.

In the Human Rights Watch 2017 World Report, a summary of key human rights events from 2015 until November 2016, one of the issues described was the rise of populism and how world leaders affect human rights issues.

Leaders mentioned in the section of the report, titled “The Dangerous Rise of Populism: Global Attacks on Human Rights Values,” include President Donald



Trump, Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, Filipino President Rodrigo Duterte and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

These leaders were all cited in the report for different actions that the Human Rights Watch deemed questionable, but they all had one common thread: The promotion of ideologies such as isolationism and intolerance, which in turn threaten the human rights of people inside and outside of their countries.

The Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner’s request for this amount of money is obviously warranted in the current global political climate. Without even starting to examine the plethora of other human rights issues, this list of human rights-violating leaders makes it clear that human rights advocates outside of governments are needed.

If the leaders of countries are not promoting human rights from within their countries, global coalitions like the U.N. need to make it a priority and commit resources to educate and enable people around the world to stand up for their own rights and the rights of others.

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Bears raise ticket prices despite losing season

» JACKIE MURRAY
METRO REPORTER

THE CHICAGO BEARS' response to its worst record since 1978? Raising ticket prices.

For the upcoming 2017-2018 season, the Chicago Bears will raise ticket prices at an overall average of 2.6 percent for all sections of Soldier Field, according to the team's Feb. 8. press release.

The increase comes after not having increased prices since the 2014 season although Soldier Field was named the fourth most expensive stadium to watch an NFL game by CBS News in September 2016, before the pricing increase.

"It was kind of a slap in the face to see the price increase," said Hunter Wilkerson, current season ticket holder and financial analyst from Rockford, Illinois.

"Basically everything about that stadium is overpriced."

Wilkerson, 23, said the problem lies with the team's ownership. He said his dad does not enjoy going to games anymore because of the way the Bears' owners, the McCaskey family, have treated fans over the years, but added that he plans on remaining a season ticket holder because of hope for the team's future potential.

"When you have owners who from the top down don't really show a care for that type of issue, there's nothing you can really do," Wilkerson said. "Unlike companies with board of directors or a president, they can't be fired if they're the owner."

The Chicago Bears declined to comment on the price increase.

Monique Maye, a sports agent at Maye & Associates, said it will

be interesting to see how fans react to the price increase because the team already has a problem filling seats. Teams usually raise ticket prices when coming off an impressive season or if they have just built a new stadium, she added. Neither is the case for the Bears.

"The fans are looking at it as they've not had a winning season in quite some time, so why would we play that amount of money to go watch the Bears play?" Maye said. "[However,] if the fans really want to come out and support the team, they're going to pay the ticket price."

Libba Galloway, a visiting assistant business and sport law professor at Stetson University in Florida, said sports teams are just like any other businesses and must increase revenue to meet growing expenses.

"[The Bears] have a lot of history, tradition and a loyal fan-base," Galloway said. "They're an



» JAMES TSITIRIDIS/CHRONICLE

institution in Chicago. When all is said and done, they will pull it off."

Generally, ticket prices across the NFL are increasing, Galloway said. The Eagles, Chargers and Lions have announced price hikes during the offseason for the upcoming season, too. Teams also have to factor in other aspects

of business unique to professional teams, such as escalating player salaries and the ever-growing pressure to expand the fan experience, Galloway added. This includes providing in-stadium wifi, more impressive video boards and updated stadium facilities to be accessible for all fans.

To address these needs, sometimes a team sees fit to raise ticket prices, according to Galloway. This is a not particularly risky business in the NFL because fans have continued to come when prices were increased, she added.

"How the team performs on the field is going to be the most determinative about whether or not people come out to games, not so much what the ticket prices are," Galloway said.

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Illinois women, senator challenging gender inequality norms

» CAROLINE BOWEN
METRO REPORTER

WOMEN PAYING MORE for the same goods and services than men solely because of gender is a form of discrimination, said State Sen. Melinda Bush, D-Grayslake.

Bush said she never questioned the validity of the practice until recently. But now that she has, she is trying to put an end to it.

"Women are making 70 cents on the dollar and African-Americans and Latinos are making substantially less than that," Bush told The Chronicle. "We certainly shouldn't be paying more for the services we are using."

In a Feb. 8 press release, Bush announced she is expanding legislation, called Pink Inc., to reduce economic barriers for Illinois women. Bush said the bill will

make it illegal in Illinois for hair salons, barber shops, dry cleaners and tailors with a unisex clientele, to charge women more than men for similar services.

"This is a fairness issue, and it is really just time that it is addressed," she said.

Pink Inc. is an extension of previous legislation Bush sponsored to end the "pink tax" on feminine hygiene products—specifically tampons, sanitary napkins and menstrual cups—which went into effect in Illinois Jan. 1.

Bush is working with representatives from the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois to establish the details of the bill.

Khadine Bennett, the ACLU's Illinois director of Advocacy and Intergovernmental Affairs, said discrimination for public accommodations is already illegal under

the Human Rights Act, but many customers do not know businesses are breaking the law. Women are often paying \$2–\$3 more than men at dry cleaning businesses for almost identical pieces of clothing, and more for the same short haircuts, Bennett added.

"[Pink Inc.] will hopefully make stores and service providers think twice as to whether they really need to charge that extra amount, or are they just doing it because they have in the past," she said.

According to Bennett, Pink Inc. would require businesses to post signs providing the prices of services, as well as a notice stating that discrimination based on gender is illegal under the Human Rights Act. The bill may also create a hotline for customers to report gender-based discrimination complaints to the Department of Human Rights, which would follow with repercussions for the accused business.

For businesses including salons that frequently provide extra services to women, Bennett said charging more for those services is legitimate.

Travis Smith, lead instructor at Sassoon Academy, a hair design school, said in the six years he has worked there, the salon's standard has always been to charge men and women equally for haircuts.

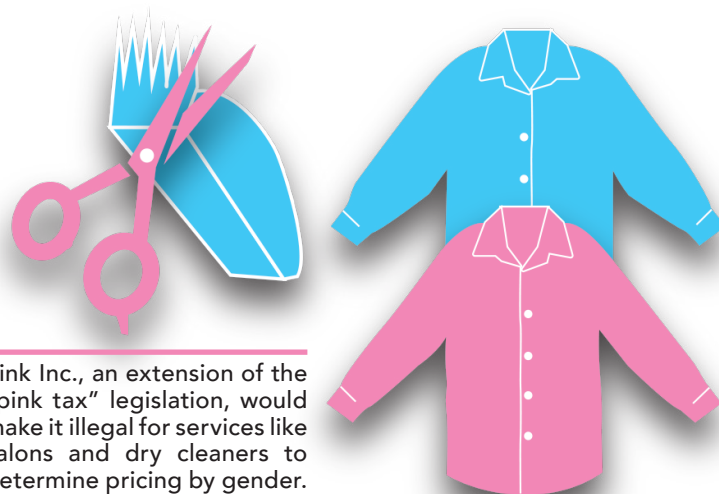
He said the bill could potentially affect smaller businesses

including those in his industry that still abide by stereotypical gender constructs when it comes to haircuts.

"Some say men's hair take less time because they would typically do men's hair shorter, but [today] that's very wrong," Smith said.

Bush said this bill will always face opponents but hopes to get a signature from the governor by the end of the year.

SEE WOMEN, PAGE 39



Pink Inc., an extension of the "pink tax" legislation, would make it illegal for services like salons and dry cleaners to determine pricing by gender.

» ZOË HAWORTH/CHRONICLE

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Illinois counters Trump's anti-abortion rhetoric

» JACKIE MURRAY
METRO REPORTER

IN RESPONSE TO President Donald Trump, who previously said he would like to see some kind of “punishment” for women who receive abortions, Illinois House of Representatives Democrats are sponsoring legislation to protect women’s access to safe, legal abortion services.

House Bill 40, sponsored by State Rep. Sara Feigenholtz, D-Chicago, aims to eliminate “trigger” language in the Illinois abortion law that would criminalize abortion in the state of Illinois if Roe v. Wade is repealed. Another part of the bill also removes any provision that would bar insurance coverage for abortion services to women who rely on Medicaid or state employee health insurance.

Feigenholtz could not be reached for comment as of press time.

The legislation comes as the future of Roe v. Wade grows uncertain, as a conservative nominee for the Supreme Court, Neil Gorsuch awaits confirmation.

“[Trump] promised when he was running and afterward that he would appoint justices who would overturn Roe v. Wade,” said Brigid Leahy, director of public policy for Planned Parenthood of Illinois. “I don’t think we’ve ever had a president be that open about his intention when it comes to appointing someone to the Supreme Court.”

Joseph Mello, assistant professor of political science at DePaul University, said it has long been the goal of the Republican Party to overturn the decision of Roe v. Wade. How Gorsuch might rule is unclear, but Mello said he wouldn’t

have imagined him receiving the nomination unless he was perceived as being a “pro-life jurist.”

Despite mounting fear and speculation, Mello said “he wouldn’t put his money” on Roe v. Wade actually being overturned.

The Supreme Court is currently split, four liberal justices and four conservative justices, and Mello said if the 1973 ruling were overturned, the responsibility of deciding to legalize abortion would fall onto the states individually.

It is likely that liberal states like California and Illinois would support abortion while conservative states like Texas and Oklahoma probably would not, according to Mello.

“It would be a federalism decision and, in some ways, it would more closely align with what public opinion is,” he said.



» AP PHOTO

State Rep. Sara Feigenholtz, D-Chicago, is pushing for legislation to protect access to legal abortions in the event Roe v. Wade is overturned.

SEE ABORTION, PAGE 39



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Southeast Side residents' health at risk again

» CAROLINE BOWEN
METRO REPORTER

THE PRESENCE OF the neurotoxin manganese in Southeast Side communities' air has left residents frustrated with the Depart-

ment of Health's repeated lack of communication over toxins emitted from neighborhood's industrial businesses.

Olga Bautista, Southeast Side community member, said this is far worse than the neighborhood's

previous pollution problem with petroleum coke, also known as petcoke, which lingered in the air until July 2016. The petcoke dust coated Southeast Side streets and blew into resident's homes before the Environmental Protection Agency heightened their industrial dust regulations.

"[The community] had no idea that this was happening," Bautista said, referring to a carbon material by-product of the oil refining process. "Everything got overshadowed with the petcoke."

According to the EPA website, people require small amounts of manganese to function, but inhaling high levels, such as those in the Southeast Side, can damage the nervous system.

Meleah Geertsma, a senior attorney with the Natural Resources Defense Council in Chicago, said she filed a lawsuit that would require air pollution monitor installation at the facility responsible for petcoke emissions, KCBX Terminals, Inc., 3259 E. 100th St.

Her focus is now on S.H. Bell Company, 12800 S. Butler Drive, which stores and processes consumer materials such as steel, silicon metal and magnesite.

According to Geertsma, manganese was recently detected in the KCBX monitors three quarters of a mile away from S.H. Bell.

"There is concern that the industry concentrated in this area is not meeting the bare legal minimum of what they are required to do with respect to their pollution," Geertsma said.

Concern over manganese stems from studies released by the Ohio EPA and the Agency for Substance and Disease Registry, according to Geertsma. The studies included neurological assessments of residents in East Liverpool, Ohio—the location of another S.H. Bell Company facility—and compared them with those of residents in Mount Vernon, Ohio.

The evaluation, released August 2009, concluded that those living closer to the facility were exposed to higher manganese

levels and had lower neurophysiological performances—such as reading scores, motor speed and strength—than people living in Mount Vernon.

As a result of the study, EPA requirements were issued to the East Liverpool S.H. Bell facility, including not allowing manganese to be handled at the facility near an East Liverpool elementary school or in open-air storage areas.

"I am extremely angry that I cannot protect my kids from these polluters," Bautista said. "This would never happen to [political officials'] children."

Erin Haynes, a researcher with the Communities Actively Researching Exposure study—an October 2008 through March 2013 investigation into childhood brain development and manganese in Marietta, Ohio—said her results also concluded that inhaling the toxin decreased children's IQ scores.

Haynes said this discovery is striking because community members in Marietta were

» G-JUN YAM/CHRONICLE



Some Southeast Side community members fear a neurotoxin called manganese is in the air, which can damage the nervous system, according to the EPA.

SEE MANGANESE, PAGE 39

Downtown Parking

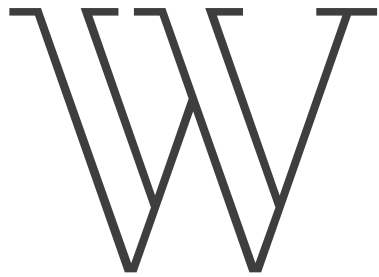
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WOMEN, FROM PAGE 34 ⬇

According to Jesse Hathaway—research fellow at the Heartland Institute Center on Taxes and the Economy—Bush's proposed legislation should not be a top priority for state legislators.

"Instead of worrying about whether the local barber is charging the same amount as the local Great Clips, Sen. Bush needs to be focusing on what she can do as a lawmaker to help the state government reduce its spending, reduce its taxes and encourage businesses to relocate into Illinois," Hathaway said.

While Hathaway said senators should focus on building an economy that brings people back to the state, Bush said she is putting Illinois women at the forefront of her priorities.

"Women are coming together and saying, 'We want to be recognized, treated equally and fairly, and we are not going to take this anymore,'" Bush said.

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ABORTIONS, FROM PAGE 36 ⬇

Safe, legal access to abortion is critical because it should be seen as necessary healthcare for women, according to Lorie Chaiten, director of the women's and reproductive rights project for the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois.

"Only through control of their reproductive lives can women achieve an equal role of the social fabric of our nation," she said. "If we deny them their ability to control their reproductive life, we will never be able to achieve equality."

The bill is currently before the Illinois House and has to also receive Senate approval and Gov. Bruce Rauner's signature. When asked about the bill in a meeting with Chicago Sun-Times Editorial Board, Rauner said he does not want to comment on it yet because he has not studied it.

Leahy and Chaiten stressed the need to contact local representatives to help get the legislation passed. Chaiten said ex-

plaining to them that no matter what happens in Washington D.C., Illinois will protect a woman's right to abortion.

People should educate themselves on the topic and understand women's healthcare—including abortions—from the perspective of it being "essential healthcare," Chaiten said.

"We need to stop the days of stigmatizing abortion and those who provide it to women and stop stigmatizing women who need [them]," Chaiten said.

Illinois has acted as a "safe haven" for women's healthcare in the Midwest, Leahy said, because the state holds fewer restrictions than others and wants to see that continue.

"We have a duty to preserve that safe haven for the women of Illinois and also potentially all of the women in the surrounding states," she said. "We're taking that duty very seriously."

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MANGANESE, FROM PAGE 37 ⬇

exposed to less manganese than East Liverpool at the time of the study in November 2011.

Geertsma said what happened in East Liverpool could happen to the Southeast Side because S.H. Bell facilities are not set up to control dust.

"Even when there is a lot of attention being paid to these facilities, it sounds like they have a lot of difficulty adequately controlling [manganese]," Geertsma said.

its three-mile radius, and its emission levels do not pose a threat.

"S.H. Bell believes it has a duty to comply with environmental regulations and consistently invest in best available technology in order to do so," the email stated.

Bautista, who is also a member of Chicago Southeast Side Coalition to Ban Petcoke, said her community is being neglected by the EPA, DOPH and Mayor Rahm Emanuel. Bautista said she wants

It sounds like they have a lot of difficulty adequately controlling [manganese]

—MELEAH GEERTSMA

The EPA has required the S.H. Bell's Chicago location to install four monitors by March 1. In a Feb. 13 emailed statement to The Chronicle, S.H. Bell said it is "committed" to meeting the deadline.

The email also stated that the company is one of at least 26 facilities that emit manganese within

to see better communication between the government and community members whose "bodies are absorbing [toxins]."

"There was no plan for when there is a crisis like this, to alert the community," Bautista said.

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